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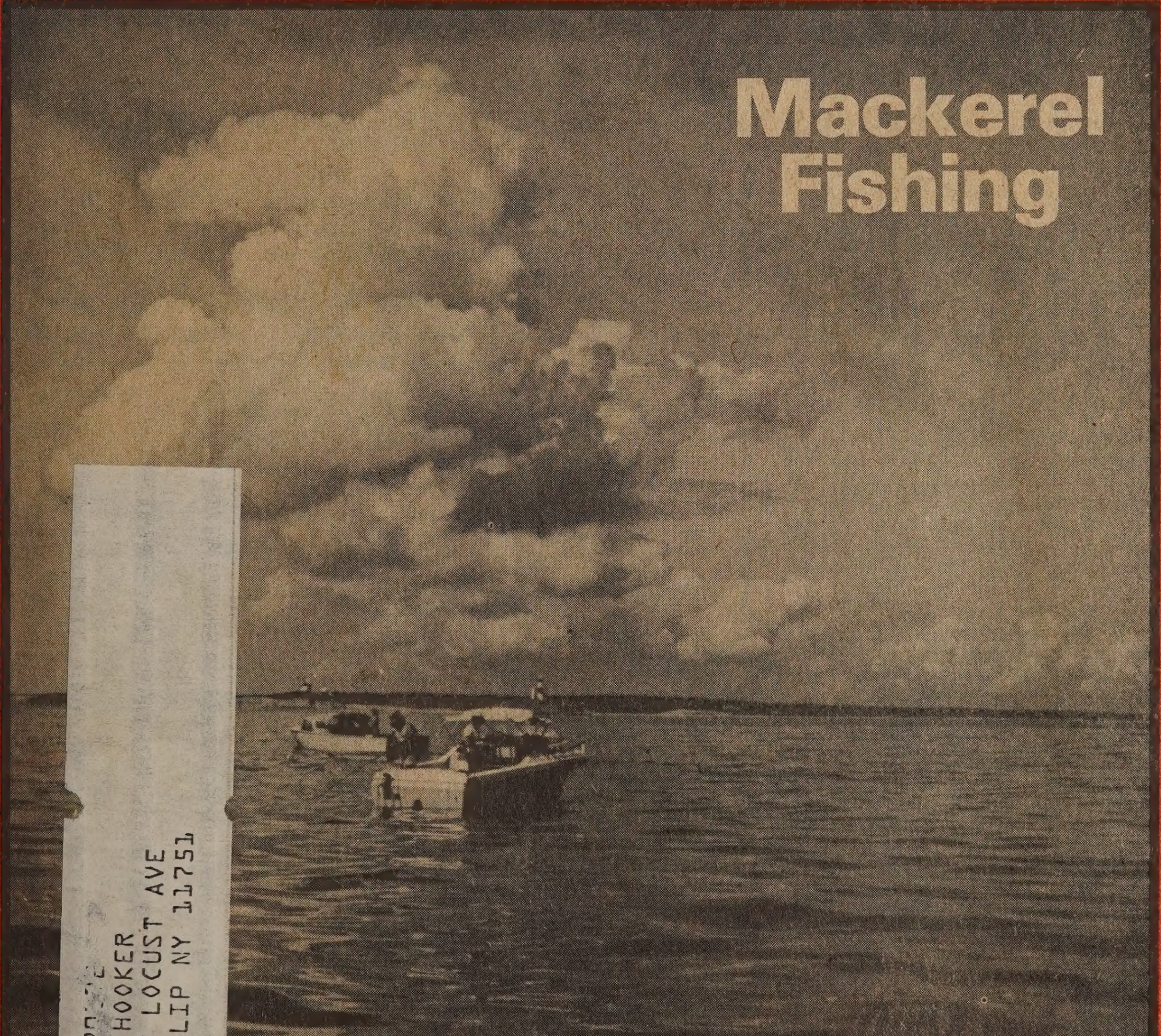
The Long Island FISHERMAN

The Largest Weekly Sportfishing Magazine in the United States!

ISSUE NUMBER 16 ★ APRIL 17th, 1980



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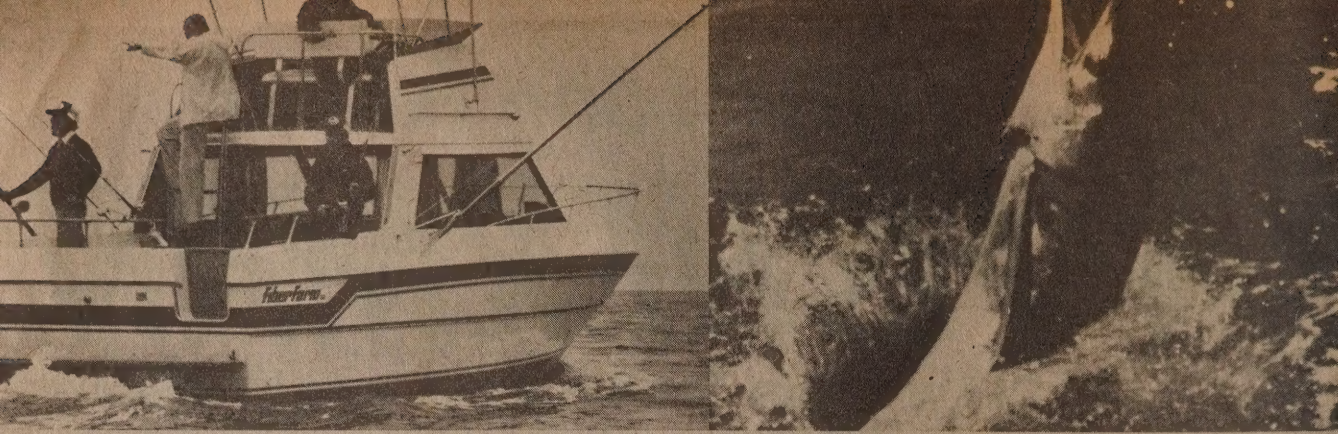

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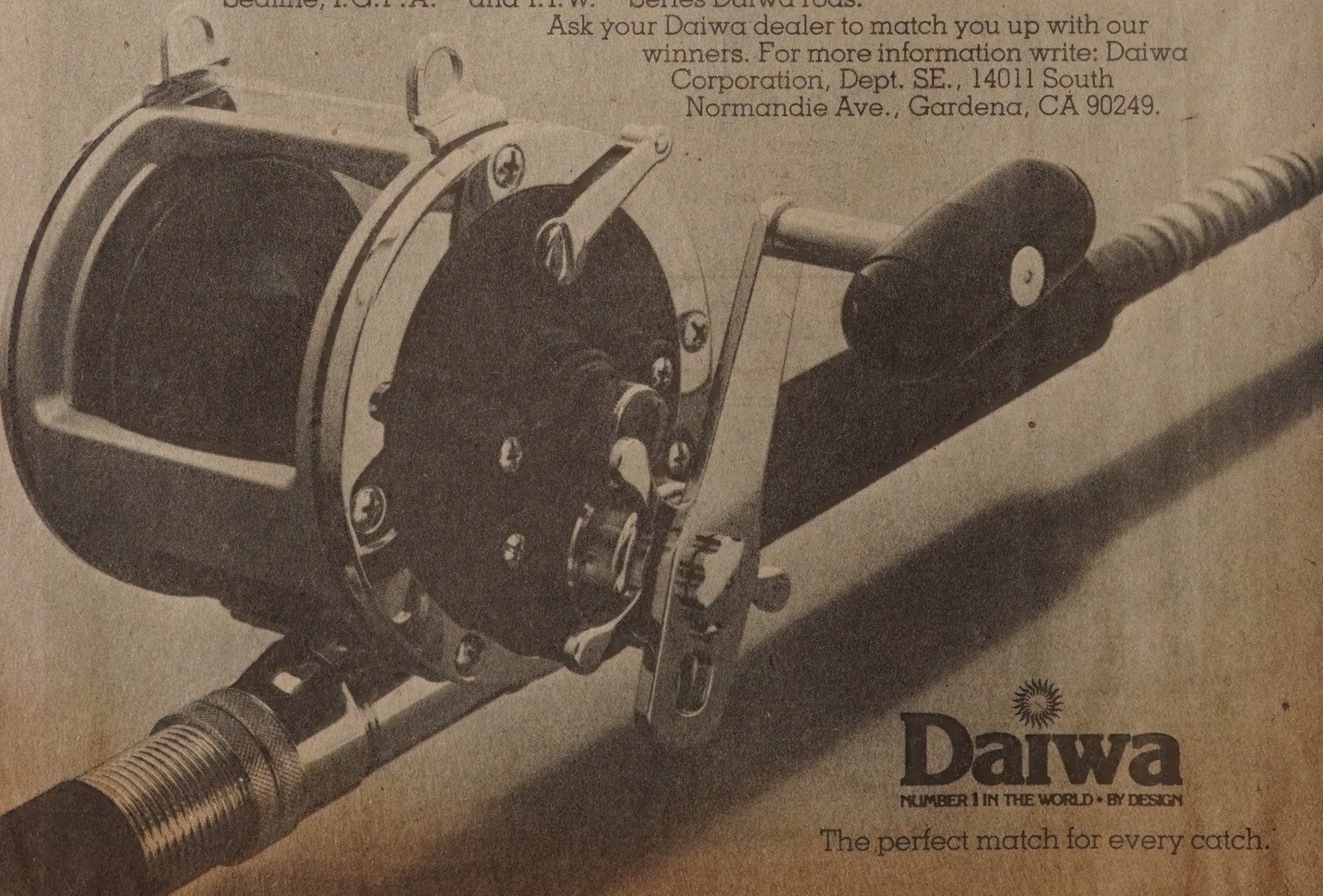

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The Long Island FISHERMAN

The Largest Weekly Sportfishing Magazine in the United States!

Volume 15, Number 16 **April 17th, 1980**

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COMING NEXT WEEK: **Promised Land Flounder**

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ASSOCIATE EDITOR

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NEW JERSEY EDITION

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EDITOR

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ASSOCIATE EDITOR

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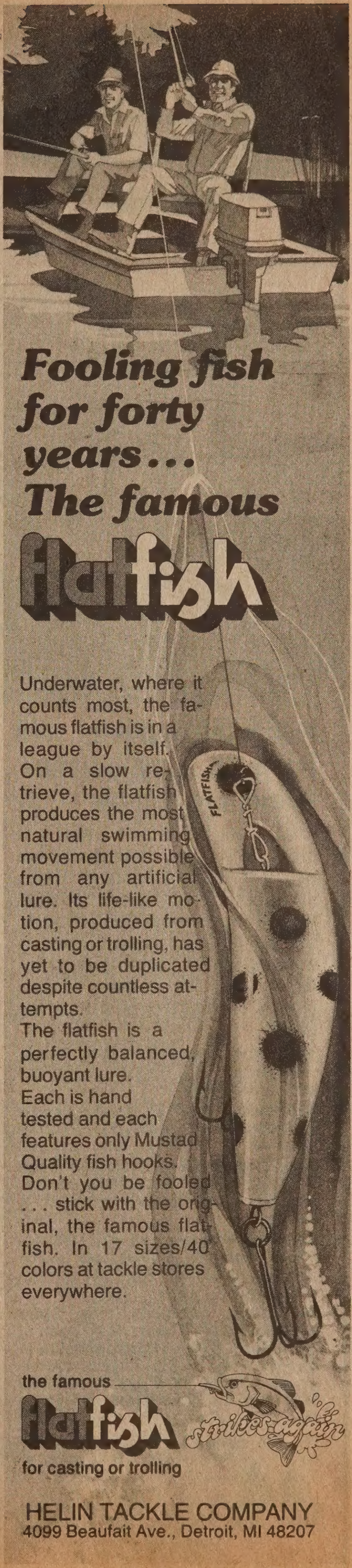

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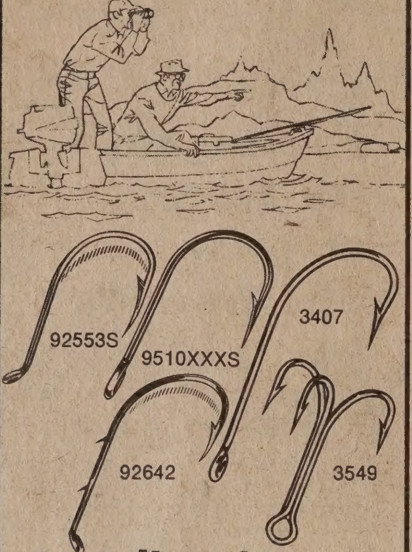

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The Fighting Chair

with William A. Muller

L.I. STATE PARK COMMISSION DEMONSTRATES UNDERSTANDING

It isn't news to anybody that our State Parks represent one of the last strongholds for surf fishing activity on Long Island. Commissioner Orin Lehman has conceded the importance of the parks in this regard, and thus surf fishermen have stepped up their communication with Commission officials over the past several years. These opportunities to exchange views and perspectives have been informative and helpful to both sides and within this spirit, cooperative progress has occurred. A decision to rescind the midnight to 3AM curfew at Robert Moses State Park and Gilgo for beach vehicles is the most recent example of cooperative park use design.

It may be helpful to review some of the items that have been requested by surf fishermen and agreed to by Mr. John Sheridan, General Manager.

1. Repair of the beach road at Montauk leading to Scott's Hole. (1979)

2. Repair of the road to the beach parking lot at Caumsett (1979, 1980)

3. Removal of brush that is partially blocking the beach track near the lighthouse at Montauk Point (1980).

4. Improve security at State Parks.
  a. supervised barricades to parking lots during nighttime hours. (1979).
  b. full-time police officer at Caumsett State Park (1980).

5. Improved regulation of permit use at all parks and special regulations at some parks (1979).

6. Convenient refuse disposal facilities at Democrat Point access entry.

Then in March, 1980, recognizing the growing interest and involvement of surf fishermen with the parks and their regulations as well as the importance of the parks as primary surf fishing access locations, Mr. Sheridan established a Citizen's Advisory Council to the Long Island State Park and Recreation Commission to discuss and advise on Commission matters related to surf fishing and surf fishermen. This includes the use of beach vehicles. the following people were invited to the first meeting held March 26, 1980.

John Fritz—New York Sportfishing Council.
Mike Parker—Long Island Beach Buggy Association.
George Hulse—United Mobile Sportfishermen
William A. Muller—Long Island Fisherman
Don Palmer—Baldwin Rod and Gun Club.

Mr. Palmer's name was added to the list of invitees because he has been active in discussions with Jones Beach officials on similar matters for quite sometime and his experience and insight was appreciated at our first meeting. Mr. Sheridan chaired the first meeting and Mr. Robert Ott (L.I.S.P.R.C.) was also present.

A number of items were discussed at this first meeting, but among the most important was access and the proposed enforcement of a midnight to 3AM curfew against beach vehicles at Robert Moses State Park and Gilgo.

The following procedural items were agreed to at the first meeting.

1. We will attempt to meet monthly. Mr. Sheridan will design a tentative schedule of meetings for the remainder of 1980 and this will be discussed at the second meeting, April 17, 1980.

2. All items of interest relative to surf fishing and surf fishermen

involving the L.I.S.P.R.C., beach use policy regulations affecting surf fisherman, pertinent legislation, and other appropriate areas of interest will be brought to this Advisory Committee for discussion.

It was also agreed that cooperation provided by surf fishermen to the Long Island State Park and Recreation Commission is a historical fact and this spirit of cooperation is appreciated by the Commission. Beach clean-ups, Christmas tree anti-erosion projects, auxiliary beach patrol, and the purchase of a CB radio for the office at Robert Moses by L.I.B.B.A. were cited as examples of this history.

Mr. Sheridan agreed to respond in writing on the request for access and the curfew issue within ten days. The response stated: "....the Commission is willing to discontinue its current regulation of prohibiting vehicles on the beach at Robert Moses and Gilgo between the hours of midnight and 3AM. The Long Island State Park Police and the staff at both Robert Moses and Jones Beach State Parks will monitor this change during the upcoming spring, summer and fall seasons and based on these results a long-range decision will be made."

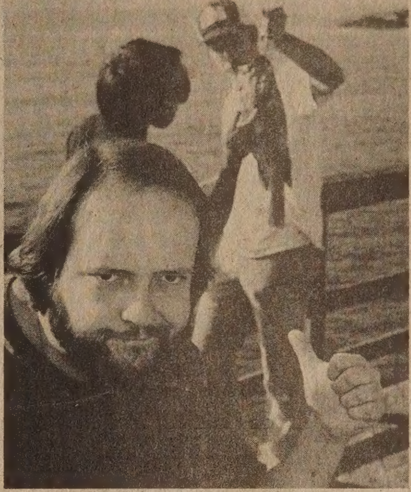
It was the contention of the Advisory Committee that surf fishermen are not responsible for vandalism and off-track vehicle use at these parks. We pointed out that it is illogical for a surf fisherman to invest thousands of dollars in a beach vehicle and fishing equipment only to "raise hell" on the beach. Fishing time is precious and we have invested our time and money for the purposes of fishing not joy riding. It is obvious that the Commission has accepted our reasoning and we are confident that official evaluation of the curfew discontinuance will clearly demonstrate that persons other than legitimate surf fishermen are responsible for problems that occur on the beach; although there may be an occasional exception. Thus, we support strict enforcement of vehicle use regulations and we support action to invalidate permits to those who are found guilty of violation of beach vehicle use regulations.

Hopefully, security surveillance and regulation enforcement will be more efficient this year since the successful merger of the New York State and State Park Police. Under the terms of this merger, the Park Police will no longer have responsibility for the parkways; this responsibility now under jurisdiction of the State Police. Thus, the Commission will have seventy-two permanent police persons (also additional temporary officers in season) to patrol only the beach, lots, and park proper. To assist in the patrol of the beach itself the Commission will have fifteen in-service four-wheel drive vehicles.

We are pleased with the decision to rescind the curfew. We believe the decision demonstrates flexibility, wisdom, and a willingness to understand the special problems consistent with surf fishing. We also believe that Mr. Sheridan, Mr. Ott, and the Commission deserve praise for the establishment of the Advisory Committee. It is clear that they recognize the importance of keeping the lines of communication open between the Commission and the users of the parks, and they possess an awareness of the importance of seeking advice and guidance from surf fishermen. Surf fishermen are unique users of park facilities. We cannot participate in our sport elsewhere: even swimmers can use pools. It is, therefore, encouraging to see tangible proof that the Commission appreciates the uniqueness of our sport.

We encourage all surf fishermen who wish to provide input to the Committee for discussion at our regular meetings to contact one of the people listed above. We participate to represent you. No one has an ax to grind and we need your input. Feedback will be provided regularly on these pages.

Needless to say, increased access for surf fishing continues to be high on the list of surf fishermen's priorities. We will continue to pursue the matter of access at future meetings and we are hopeful that the Commission will discover appropriate ways to provide meaningful access.



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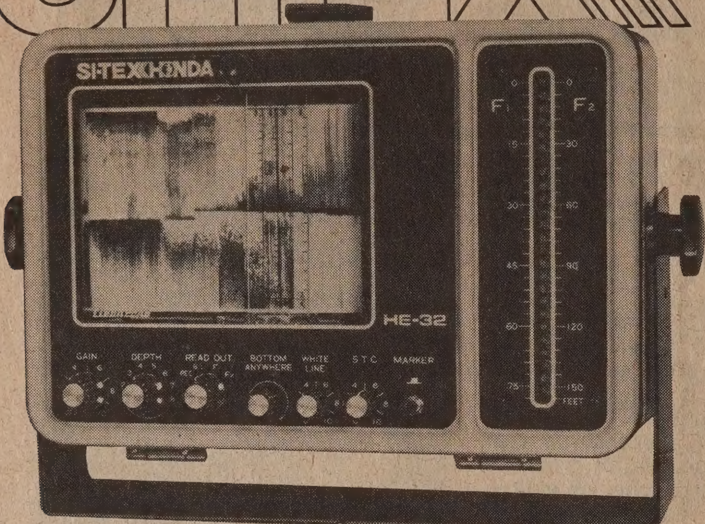

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Contests & Tournaments

1980 BABYLON INVITATIONAL TOURNAMENT

The Babylon Tuna Club is pleased to announce its 24th Annual Invitational Tuna, Marlin and Shark Tournament to be held at Babylon on July 26 and July 27, 1980. All boats entering must be at least 23' in length and equipped with VHF or CB radio. This year for the first time chumming, along with trolling and a new category of eligible fish (shark) will be included.

Tournament designed three-boat club teams, will be competing for club prizes, and all anglers may compete for individual prizes. Mooring facilities at the Babylon Town Dock will be made available without cost to the tournament participants. Due to limited dock space, berths will be assigned on a first come, first served basis.

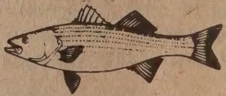
This year's entry fee will be $90 per boat—$250 for a three-boat club team. There will be no additional angler fees. Bait and chum will not be provided, however, it will be readily available in the immediate vicinity of the dock, along with fuel.

A captains' meeting will be held on Friday evening at 8PM on the Town Dock; at this time, boat numbers, tournament patches and literature will be distributed. Rules will be explained and questions answered. All awards will be made Sunday night, July 27, on the dock immediately following weigh-in.

As in previous years, all fish will become the property of the tournament to be auctioned off at the Town Dock with all proceeds to be donated to the **Association for the help of Retarded Children.**

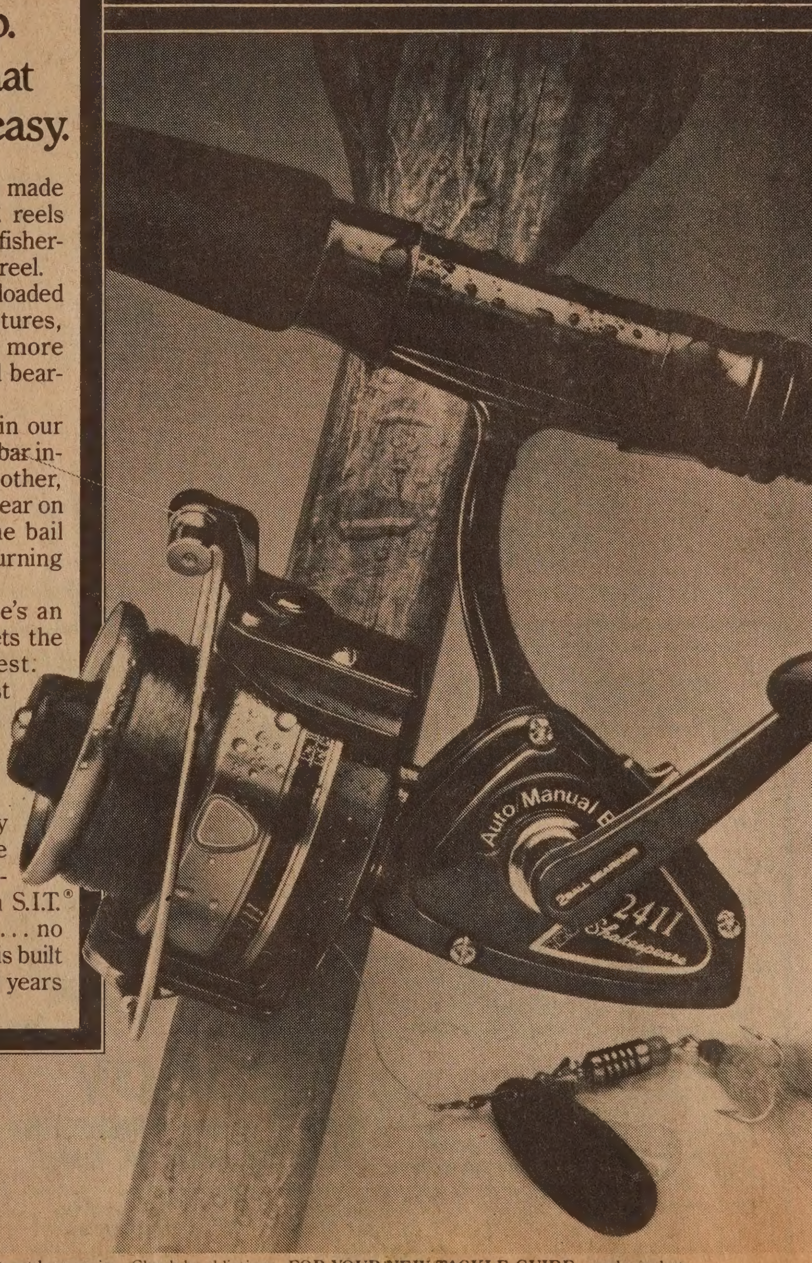
On Saturday evening following the weigh-in, an optional clambake will take place on the dock. Unlike last year, this event will take on a new look of a covered patio, tables and chairs will be provided. The affair will be catered by B&B and will be open to tournament participants and their guests.

For entry applications, write to: Babylon Tuna Club, P.O. Box 123, Babylon, Long Island 11702.



BOATING

The U. S. Coast Guard Auxiliary, Flotilla 13, will conduct the New York State course for young boatsmen. For boys and girls age 10 to 16, on Thursday nights from 7-9PM in East Islip Senior High School. Classes begin April 17. For further information, call 581-0526.



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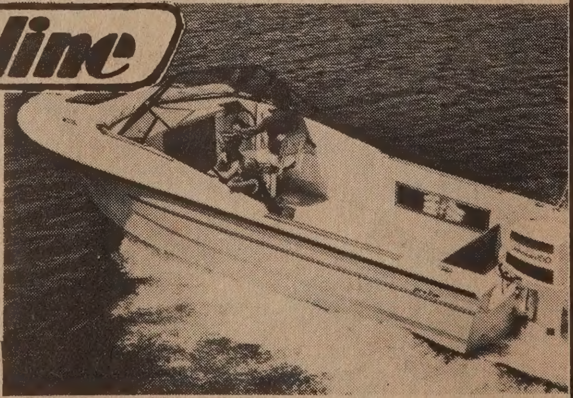

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CLUB NEWS

EAST BAY ANGLERS INC.

The East Bay Anglers Inc. installed the following officers for 1980:

President—Danny O'Neill; Vice President—Richie Giannoccora; Secretary—Ken House, and Treasurer—Dick Rubin.

The Committee Chairmen are: Tournament Committee: J. Denicola; Fun and Games: J. Bellipario; Interclub Activities: George Smith; USATT: A. Scimeca; Publicity: B. Skoy; Trophies: R. Goldberg; Good & Welfare: M. Stone; Membership: R. Giannoccora, and Blood Bank: D. Dweck.

Guests and prospective members are invited to all Club meetings on the second and fourth Wednesday of each month, at 8:30 p.m., at Salty Bay Yacht Club, 180 Westside Avenue, Freeport, New York.

Pass It On...

OPEN HOUSE AT CAPTREE

The Captree Boatmen cordially invite the public to participate in it's first annual Blessing of the Fleet and Open House at Captree State Park on April 27, 1980. The festivities begin at 1:30 p.m.

Free to all—entertainment by the L.I. Mummers, parking, admission, raffles for a complete fishing outfit, fishing trips, advice by the experts on bay and ocean fishing, equipment displays and demonstrations. Our special feature will be Dr. Frank Field, NBC News.

Remember, those of you who choose to join us on any one of our clean, comfortable boats that day will become active participants in the flotilla parade of Captree's First Annual Blessing Event.

LICENSE ISSUE TO BE DISCUSSED

The New York Sportfishing Council will sponsor a public meeting on Thursday, April 24, to hear sport fishermen's attitudes toward a saltwater fishing license. Based on their findings, the Board of Directors of the Council will pursue the issue with state and local legislators. All sport fishermen are invited to give their views on the saltwater license. Here are the details:

Thursday, April 24, 1980, 8PM at West Hills School, South Huntington. Take Rt. 110 North to Weston Street (on west side of RT. 110, next to G. Fried Carpet Center, opposite Walt Whitman Shopping Center). Left on Weston Street to end (approx. 3 blocks). Enter West Hills School parking lot. (Weston Street is south of Jericho Turnpike and north of Northern State Parkway.)

FRIENDS OF LONG ISLAND

The monthly recycle drive of the Friends of Long Island will be held Saturday, April 19, from 10AM to 4PM at the Pathmark parking field on Merrick Road in Seaford. Look for the ecology flag. Materials collected are: newspapers and magazines (tied or untied), aluminum and car batteries.

Attention: Will W. SAVERE please contact Susan at The Long Island Fisherman. We need your phone number for your classified ad for "Ross Dual Sportsman Recorder/ Flasher."

SENATOR WEICKER PONDERING FISH TRAP BILL

Reliable sources report that Senator Lowell P. Weicker, Jr. (R-CT) instructed his staff to prepare legislation that would require the use of biodegradable materials in fish traps and gillnets. The bill is expected to provide that floatlines at the top of gillnets used in Federal waters—that is beyond the 3-mile limit—must be made of materials that will rot away and prevent lost or abandoned gillnets from "ghost fishing" indefinitely. The National Coalition for Marine Conservation has asked the Senator to broaden the proposed legislation to require that fish traps in Federal waters must have biodegradable doors.

Many fish traps in the Gulf of Mexico are lost due to ships and shrimp boats running over and severing the buoys that mark them. Without biodegradable doors, more traps will continue to collect and trap fish for a long time. "They've got traps right in the shipping lanes and they're on the radio telling tankers to move out of the way," says Mike Oliver, a Florida angler. "Then they're griping about the shrimpers destroying some of their gear. They were even talking about putting barbed wire out on the Gulf where the shrimpers drag their nets to get even with them."

The fish trap and gillnet issues are rapidly becoming the number one bone of contention between sport and commercial fishermen in Florida, the Gulf Coast and Southern California. However, ghost fishing by monofilament gillnets has been a source of increasing complaints in New England and the Northwest for several years. The Florida League of Anglers has filed a bill to prohibit the use of fish traps in state waters which many believe will become law this year. Beyond the 3-mile limit where the Regional Councils will decide the issue no such prompt action is likely. Neither the Gulf Council nor the South Atlantic has shown any inclination to deal with the problem.

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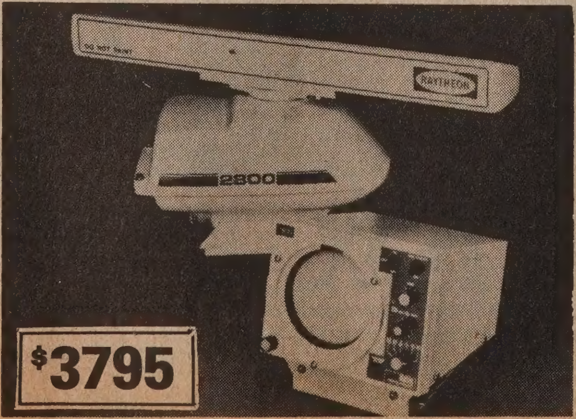

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summer to learn new skills and sharpen old ones at a series of two-day fly fishing seminars sponsored by Fenwick Fly Fishing Schools at Eldred Preserve, Route 55, Eldred, N.Y.

Dr. James Gilford, Frederick, Md., will be in charge of the course and will have with him a staff of expert instructors to give personalized training to guests. Dates for the four sessions at Eldred are the weekends of April 12-13, May 17-18, June 21-22 and July 19-20. Classes start at 8AM Saturday mornings and conclude at 4PM Sundays.

"In a few days of classroom studies and pond and stream teaching, we can turn a novice at fly fishing into a fly fisherman, and a professional into a master," says Dr. Gilford, who has supervised such seminars at Eldred in recent years.

The crash curriculum unravels the mysteries of tackle, entomology and artificials flies, knots, fly presentation, stream lore and wading. Instruction is also given in fly line, rod and reel construction, selecting the right tackle and bait, artificial fly construction, choice of flies and "how to match the hatch," a subject Dr. Gilford will dwell on during the course.

Jim Green, one of the world's most noted fly fishermen, wrote the Fenwick Textbook on which the course is based and helped create the curriculum, which includes a variety of colored slides and 16 mm films. Emphasis is placed on personalized, individual instruction at ponds and stream. Fenwick supplies balanced tackle (rods, reels, lines and lures), but students may bring their own tackle if they wish. The classes are open to men and women of all ages.

Tuition for the weekend schools is $100 per person, with the student paying for his own food and lodging. Eldred Preserve has a number of modern climiate controlled motel units, located in a rustic area adjacent to the trout pond and stream. Double rooms run from $22 to $35 per day; single rooms are $18 to $25, depending on the season. There is a tackle shop on the premises as well as a brookside terrace coffee shop and a restaurant which serves trout 12 ways daily. There is a swimming pool, as well as tennis courts on the premises.

To register for the Fenwick Fly Fishing School, anglers may call 301-663-3966 or write to Dr. James Gilford at Fenwick Fly Fishing Schools, 7003 Glen Court, Frederick, Maryland 21701.

FISHERMEN FINED MORE THAN $333,000

Eleven Gloucester, Massachusetts fishermen have been fined more than $333,000 for violation of the Fishery Conservation and Management Act, according to an announcement by Terry L. Leitzell, Assistant Administrator for Fisheries of the

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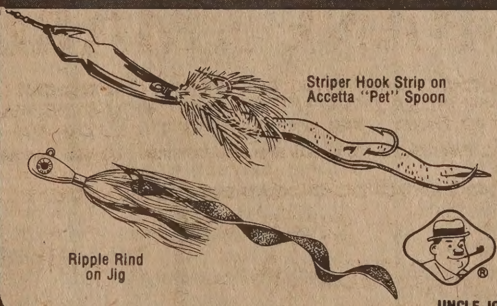

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National Ocenic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA).

The civil fines were leveled by Department of Commerce Administrative Law Judge Hugh J. Dolan for nearly 40 violations of the regulations based on the management plan for cod, haddock, and yellowtail flounder.

These violations were the subject of administrative hearings in Gloucester in August, 1979. They are the first cases in which civil penalties have been assessed by an Administrative Law Judge against domestic fishermen on the east coast.

"This decision is an important positive step in our continuing enforcement efforts. We hope that the fishermen of the area will take note of these fines," said Allen Peterson, Regional Director of NOAA'S National Marine Fisheries Service in Gloucester. "We intend to enforce the regulations that have been established to manage and protect the resources in the New England areas..

The individual fines ranged from a high of $66,349 to a low of $1.007. The majority of the violations were for landing cod and haddock in excess of the limits set by the regulations. The other violations included failure to maintain log books, fishing without a license, fishing in a closed area, and using improper fishing gear.

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OUTBOARD DOCTOR

Questions answered by
Doc Merc Omchrysler
of O.B. University

I own a 1975 115 h.p. Mercury on a 20' Wellcraft Center Console that I trailer in the summer. Before I take off from the house, I always check to see if the engine starts so that I don't have trouble at the ramp. I just run it for a few seconds so that it does not have a chance of overheating. I've been told that I'm taking a big chance of burning up the water pump. Is this true? I have not had an overheat problem since I've owned the engine. *T. Finch, Hicksville.*

Whoever told you this is absolutely right. You are taking a chance. It only takes five seconds to char a Merc Impeller. This item is rubber and it rotates in a stainless steel insert on a stainless steel plate. Without water as a lubricant, the friction is so great that the Impeller actually burns. A flushing device costs about $10 and takes about two minutes to install. Compare this with about $20 replacement pump parts plus an hour or more in labor.

***

My '79 Mercury 80 h.p. likes to eat rectifiers. Twice this past summer I've had to make replacements due to the battery going dead on me. I think the dealer sold me some bad stock, but he will not exchange them. What do I have to do? *B. Sellers, Woodmere.*

First of all, it is unlikely the dealer sold you two bad rectifiers. It sounds like your problem lies elsewhere. Did you check your battery connections? If the terminal fittings are loose or corroded this will almost always ruin your rectifier. Also, if you accidently cross your battery cables, this will, without a doubt, cause the rectifier to open. Mercury will not warranty any electrical or electronic component installed by a customer. They will cover you if a professional mechanic installs the component. OMC (Evinrude & Johnson) and Chrysler have the same policy.

***

My '76 Evinrude 25 h.p. runs okay at low speed and will go for about half a minute wide open, but then suddenly cuts down to about half throttle. I've done a complete tune-up, but it didn't help. A mechanic friend told me I should take down the powerhead to check for a cooling problem. Does that make sense? *P. Norris, Long Beach*

Not really! The situation you describe sounds more like a carburetion problem. Before condemning the powerhead, check all the gas line connections; be sure the small "O" rings are not broken or nicked. Check fuel filter, carburetor float bowl and the whole fuel system for air leaks. Also take a compression check. If all this fails to turn up a problem area, then perhaps your powerhead is the culprit.

***

This past fall I developed an overheating problem with my '73 50 h.p. Evinrude. I replaced the water pump, but it still ran hot, so I removed the thermostat. This seems to have solved the problem. Must I replace the thermostat? *L. Miller, Babylon.*

Yes, your thermostat should be replaced. Its job is to control the internal temperatures of your engine when running (140° F, Idle Speed & 110° F High Speed) Controlling heat ensures the proper expansion of engine parts. The results will be a higher compression, better performance, economy and long spark plug life.

PLEASE NOTE: I would certainly replace the head gasket if the engine overheated. You are flirting with disaster if you do not. I'll bet the head gasket is bubbled and ready to blow!

SERVICE TIP: Do not use auto parts in your marine engine. Most auto parts are NOT waterproofed or designed for use around saltwater. In the case of starters and alternators, automotive models are NOT SEALED! Sparks in a bilge or confined area of a boat is something to really worry about!

***

I have a '73 115 Evinrude with about 150 hours on it which I use to push a 19 Mako. I've had three pulse packs replaced now at a cost of between $120 and $165. My dealer says the packs were probably defective, but there is no way of proving it and Evinrude does not guarantee them once installed and proved to be working. *J. Peterson, Deer Park.*

I think perhaps you better find a new repair shop. Dealers can send back packs that fail in an unreasonable time and have them replaced under warranty. The going rate at repair shops for replacing pulse packs is about $100. Natch, you will find some shops charging more or less, but $165 is a definite rip-off if that is all that was done.

SERVICE HINT: STP Oil Treatment is an excellent lube to apply to prop shaft splines to prevent prop seizure on the shaft. It also works great on bolts that are constantly submerged in water.

***

I am having a lot of concern about which gas to use. I have a 1978 Johnson 140 h.p. Can I use the unleaded? What octane rating should I look for? What about Gasahol? Should I have the timing changed? *G. Giacomo, Northport.*

The recommended fuel for your engine is 86 octane gasoline. Regular or lead-free gasoline of this octane rating (which should be posted on the pumps at your filling station) may be used. I would recommend an octane of 89, hi-test, by all means, if affordable. If you are doubtful about the quality of the gas you might be getting, knocking BACK the timing a few degrees would certainly help engine life and only slightly affect performance. As for Gasahol, I would not recommend using it. Alcohol has a tendency to absorb water. A fuel tank containing Gasahol which has been sitting for a few days may pick up enough moisture which could very possibly give you fuel system problems.

***

My 1971 65 h.p. Mercury outboard must have about 5000 hours on it. I service it myself and have had absolutely no trouble with it. As I go out night fishing quite often, I've started to worry that it might all of a sudden self-destruct or something, as it has had so much use. One mechanic told me there is a strong probability that the drive-shaft splines on the powerhead are well worn and could develop severe slippage without warning. *R. d'Ama, Freeport.*

It does sound as if you take real good care of your Merc. One thing to remember: the average life of an outboard motor is ten years. You are pushing that average now. The best way of determining whether your splines are worn or not is to drop the gear case and inspect the splines on the drive-shaft. If they show wear, they tell you that the crank-shaft splines are worn also. It is then only a matter of time before both go. A drive shaft for your model will cost about $110. A crank-shaft goes for about $150. No dealer would do the job and guarantee it unless he replaces piston rings, bearings, water pump and gaskets. I suggest you take a look at your splines now.

All questions
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TACKLE DOCTOR

Questions answered by
Doc Lee Niboraes
of the Mayco Clinic

I have two problems that involve the gears on some of my reels. First on my Penn 500 and on an Ambassadeur 9000 I have difficulty disengaging the gears to put the reel into free spool. I also have a Mitchell 306 that constantly strips the gear every other year, as it seems to wear out. I like the reel, but the gears drive me crazy. Is there anyplace that sells stronger gears? Bob Powell

Let's look at the conventional reels first. Although you didn't specifically say how you were using the reels, I assume it would be either trolling or diamond jigging since these are both high speed gear ratio reels. Because of the high gear ratio, the gear faces along the teeth of the gear are at such an angle that it harder to flip the reels into free spool if there is any tension on the line. Even the pull of a three or four ounce diamond jig might be enough to cause a tough spot as you push the free spool lever. Under the strain of trolling where there may be lots of pressure due to a large spoon or an umbrella rig, the reels will be almost impossible to get out of gear unless you use your thumb to apply some pressure to turn the spool backwards to ease the tension on the spool and gears. You can also raise the rod tip, and as the tip is lowered, place the reel in free spool since there will be little tension on the line for that one moment as the line goes slack.

This is not a "problem," but is something unique to all high speed reels. The Carl Newell reels even go so far as to place a small sheet of paper describing the difficulty and advising how to avoid it. On reels with very slow retrieve ratios, there is no problem because the angle of the gear faces have less of a radical slope to them.

The gears on your Mitchell cannot be replaced with stronger gears, but let's examine the problem. The 306 has an aluminum main gear that could wear out, and a strong smaller pinion gear that rarely wore out. The reason behind it was, the angler could never strip the entire gear system, although one gear could wear out eventually. The main gears are relatively inexpensive. I'd simply buy two or three gears as spares and change them when the play gets too excessive. The 306 has a good drag, is very lightweight and is a pleasure to fish with, despite the gear problem. By the way, most anglers will never wear out a set of 306 gears in a lifetime. You must be fishing a lot of hours on that reel!

Abu-Garcia in Fairfield, N.J. will service Mitchell reels until this summer; after that, you must get parts and service from Browning, the new distributor of Mitchell. They are located in Morgan, Utah.

***

I need a left-handed spinning reel, but have not been able to find one. Penn and Garcia used to make a lefty reel and I believe the old Ru-Mer came in a lefty version. What gives with the tackle companies today? Doesn't the lefty have any reels for him? To be sure we are talking about the same thing, I want to reel in with my right hand and cast with my left. Dennis Miller.

Have you been living in the mountains? One of the features of the dozens of skirted spool spinning reels on the market today is the fact that they can be switched over to a lefty reel, so you retrieve line with your right hand by simply removing a screw on the handle, pulling it from the reel, re-installing it on the other side and then replacing the screw. It takes only a minute to do and every manufacturer has reels that are easily switched. Talk to any tackle shop owner or store clerk and they'll show you how simple it is. Daiway, Shimano, Ryobi, Penn, Shakespeare, Pflueger, Olympic and several others all make quality reels that convert to lefty use. Penn, and others, also make lefty reels for their non-skirted spool reels.

***

Can you give me some information on a Swish hook that commercial fishermen use. Why do they use it and can it be bought by sport fishermen anywhere? Billy Kozinski

The hook you refer to is probably the Siwash hook originally used in the Pacific Northwest by commercial salmon fishermen. It has a wide, rounded bend and is generally considered to be a strong hook, excellent for striped bass and bluefish. It has a strong point and penetrates deeply into the jaw of a fish. It is always sold as a stainless hook and is made by both Eagle Claw and Mustad.

Siwash hooks are readily available at most tackle shops in sizes from 1/0 to 10/0. Many fishermen like to use them as replacements on their diamond jigs. The hooks are sold with an open eye easily closed with a pair of pliers.

***

I have a 130 lb. class rod and want to match it to a reel. What do you recommend? It should be from a 6/0 to a 12/0. John Rios, Jr.

The best reel would be the Penn Senator #116 or the slightly smaller #115. You really don't need a reel or rod that size for 99.99% of the offshore fishing. You would be better off with a lighter rod of 80 lb. class and the #115 Penn or new Daiwa SeaLine 9/0.

***

I have Mitchell 306 and 300 spinning reels which have most of the paint corroded off or chipped off. How can I refinish these reels so they look like new? Thomas P. Healy

Chip, scrape and sand off all loose paint. Sand with fine paper to smooth out all pitted areas or chipped paint. Reel can be painted assembled, but it is better to break it down into bare parts of the housing, rotating head and side plate.

There are several choices of paints. Sprays will apply the glossiest coating for a factory-like paint job, but you can brush on, too. Use an oil base paint like Rustoleum after applying a light coat of primer.

The best finish and most durable will be realized from any of the epoxy sprays or two part epoxy mixes used by boaters to paint hulls.

Do not paint inside the reel housing since some greases will eventually break down the paint and cause a sticky mess inside the gears.

***

Most of my reel seats on my rods are made of what appears to be aluminum and they are badly corroded. Why do manufacturers put these seats on rods that are intended for use in saltwater fishing? How can I prevent this corrosion?

Bob Maslowski.

You get what you pay for! Every major manufacturer of fishing tackle sells rods that vary in price from only a few dollars to perhaps as high as $50 or more. The higher priced rods will always have heavy-duty chromed reel seats, the finest guides and the best wraps. The inexpensive rods will have less costly seats, guides and plainer wraps. It is that simple. They are producing rods that will fill the needs of fishermen with an unending combination of abilities and dollars to spend.

Aluminum is not as bad as your note sounds. I have several rods with aluminum seats, especially my saltwater fly rods, that have shown minimal salt corrosion. They are sprayed with oil and cleaned regularly. One advantage of aluminum reel seats is their very light weight, a reason why many ultra-light rods use this material for a reel seat.

I think you are blaming the

manufacturer for not keeping your rods cleaned and cared for properly. Try some freshwater rinsing and a squirt of oil to prevent this problem.

***

I've been rigging up some of my offshore tackle, installing new line, cleaning reels and, in general, getting ready for the coming fishing. I read somewhere that the offshore swivel knot is the best knot to use to join either a swivel or a snap swivel to the fishing line. I've already tied Biminis in the line to give me twenty feet of double line. Do you recommend the offshore swivel knot to add the leader? *Russell D'Mitra.*

Yes and no. Bob Stearns, Outdoor Life's tackle tinkerer and inveterate knot and tackle tester has performed a series of tests with the offshore knot and found that it works perfectly with braided Dacron lines, but it can break under a rapid stress, as when a fish strikes a bait or trolling lure, when tied with monofilament lines. He suggests using the improved clinch knot instead—but only for mono.

In case you weren't aware of it, IGFA has new requirements for leaders and double lines this year. The total length of the two cannot exceed forty feet. Get a copy of the new regs by writing to IGFA, 3000 Las Olas Blvd., Fort Lauderdale, FL 33316. Membership is only $15 and gets you their annual record listings and an excellent fishing guide.

***

I began fly rod fishing for blues last year and had some encouraging success with this method. Although larger blues of better than ten pounds have not been hooked, I have had a couple of blues that weighed just over seven pounds. One thing I learned is that they fight like the very devil, and also that a knot in the fly line will not go through the tiptop guide on a fly rod. A loop in my line caused a knot which went through the guides, but could not get through the tip. It pulled it right off the rod and broke a small sliver of Fiberglas with it. Any suggestions? *Pete Walker*

There's an easy remedy and it only involves about a half hour to do a little rod wrapping. First, check the rod tip itself. You mentioned that a sliver of Fiberglas came off. If it is small, only a quarter or half inch, don't worry about it. If the sliver is too long it may have weakened the rod. Get a replacement tip section from the manufacturer. All saltwater fly rods will perform better with larger guides on them. The tiptop itself should be an Aetna foul-proof type in sizes LST or CTT. The opening in the tiptop is larger than the usual fly rod tiptop and a looped or knotted fly line will pass right through with no hang-up. It is a wraparound style guide fitting snugly around two sides of the blank rather than fitting over it like a tube. It is durable, corrosion resistant and very lightweight.

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NATIONAL SCENE

with Al Ristori

WEEKEND BOATING BAN BLASTED

Over the years I've often been asked why it's so hard to get this country's fifty to sixty million sport fishermen to do something about threats to their sport. After all, it's been pointed out, a much smaller number of gun owners have very effectively blocked anti-gun legislation—and, in many cases, these same individuals are often fishermen. Yet fishermen remain lackadaisical in support of their own interests simply because they haven't faced such a direct threat as the gun owner has. Most of the problems facing the fishermen are of a local or regional nature and just aren't broad enough to create real unity of purpose.

I've often kidded that the best thing that could happen to fishermen would be for someone to try to ban fishing rods. That might just be strong enough medicine to get them off their butts and fighting for their rights. Well, something almost as silly came out of the Federal government recently and it sure did shake things up! The Department of Energy has hardly made much of a reputation for itself in its short existence, and they provided further evidence of their uselessness with the recently issued Standby Federal Emergency Energy Conservation Plan. However, with their call for a ban on Sunday, or weekend, boating the Department did succeed in what many organizations have failed to do. They got the country's fishermen to open their eyes and stand up to a threat that really strikes home!

Having been involved with the Federal government for years (mostly on the outside, fighting various agencies), I really wasn't very concerned about this when I first read about it. It's pretty common for the bloated bureaucracy to gather a bunch of redundant employees (otherwise occupied with constructing bigger and better paper airplanes) and assign them the task of planning for some vague emergency. No one cares what the plan says, as it wouldn't be used in any case, but everyone is satisfied that there is some sort of plan in existence. That's the attitude I took toward Energy's latest gem, but boaters throughout the country are dead serious about the implications. I got that feeling when a friend from Ohio called up to voice his objections and note the organized effort in his state to stop it. Since then, that sort of pressure has developed on many fronts—and I'm sure glad to see that there are some threats that will inspire fishermen to contact their Congressmen. I was beginning to wonder if even the ban on fishing rods would do it!

Of course, the proposed ban on weekend boating is ridiculous and discriminatory. The Energy Department estimates that a Sunday ban would reduce demand for gasoline by one-half of one percent, and a total weekend ban would save all of one percent. Even at that, their figures are considerably higher than those of the boating industry—which uses one-half of one percent as the figure for total recreational boating gasoline use. In either case, we're dealing with a situation that is insignificant in the total picture, and one which would be severely affected by the emergency restrictions on gasoline for cars. If any of those Ivory Tower types were awake during the gas shortage last summer they would have realized that the general shortage of gasoline had a severe impact on recreational boating. Since people couldn't count on getting gas for their cars, they didn't travel to favorite fishing areas. In many cases, once there they couldn't get sufficient fuel for their boats. The economic effect on areas dependent on boating was terrible. Resort areas were half empty and there would have been many business failures if the shortages continued. An outright ban on weekend boating would have been the final nail in the coffin.

With last summer's experience in mind, it should have been obvious to the Department of Energy that a disproportionate drop in boating activity would occur simply as the result of general fuel scarcity and car restrictions. Congressman Norman Lent (R-LI) pointed out in a recent letter that the law calling for development of a standby emergency conservation plan specifically prohibits imposition of an unreasonably disproportionate share of restriction burdens on any particular class of industry or business. As this ban on weekend boating would have a very disproportionate effect on coastal communities, Lent feels it is clearly in violation of the intent of Congress in passing that law—and he has co-sponsored a Congressional Resolution expressing opposition to regulations that would unduly burden recreational boaters.

Another Congressman taking a strong stand against the weekend boating ban is Bill Hughes, representing the tourist-dependent Cape May/Wildwood area of New Jersey. In testimony at a Department of Energy hearing, Hughes noted that "The energy savings are very small, perhaps even inconsequential, while the economic repercussions are real and severe." The Congressman further testified that the boating reduction would reduce demand by a maximum of one percent at the cost of 148,000 jobs and more than $4 million in economic losses. The New Jersey State Energy Commissioner, Joel R. Jacobson, has also come out against the boating ban, as well as the entire plan. His more practical solution is to have the Federal government allocate gas supplies to the states, which would then be responsible for choosing how to reduce demand.

The aggressive stands of these and many other politicians in opposition to the weekend boating ban is indicative of the type of support fishermen can get if they just take the time to speak up. I fully expect that the Department of Energy will soon revise their standby procedures and take the monkey off the back of the boating industry. They probably only singled out this particular recreational activity in the first place because the participants are so politically inactive. Hopefully, a few more fishermen have learned their lesson and are now ready to support a National Sport Fishing Federation.

A Couple of Commercials

Your Reporter is starting another season of fishing reports on WCBS-AM (News Radio 88), beginning April 18. At the time this is being written, I'm not sure of the exact times. However, we'll probably be following last year's basic format of a Friday evening program (repeated twice during the night) and two programs each on Saturday and Sunday morning. Hope you'll be listening—and if you have any suggestions, please shoot them along!

If you're in the market for fishing tackle and looking for information as to what's available, consider the "Field & Stream Fishing Tackle & Accessories Buying Guide." That annual, which I edited, is on sale at newsstands and will probably tell you even more than you want to know about all types of rods and reels, plus lines, accessories and terminal tackle, lures, electronics, downriggers, tackle boxes and electric motors. If you can't find a copy on the newsstands, send the $2 cover price, plus $.50 postage and handling, to F&S Fishing Annuals, CBS Publications, Dept. MH, 1515 Broadway, New York, N.Y. 11036. Be sure to specify that you want the "Buying Guide." Of course, you might also want to pick up the other two "Field & Stream" annuals at the same time. The "Fishing Annual" and "Bass Annual" are both $1.95. These excellent publications are edited by Glenn Sapir and feature articles by many top writers. Your Reporter even slipped in a piece about the many types of flounders that are found throughout the country. You'll find that in the "Field & Stream Fishing Annual" with a full page lead-in photo of Charlie Nappi's world record 22 lb. 10 oz. fluke taken at Montauk.

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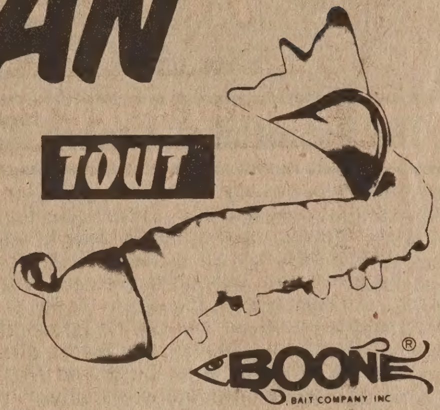

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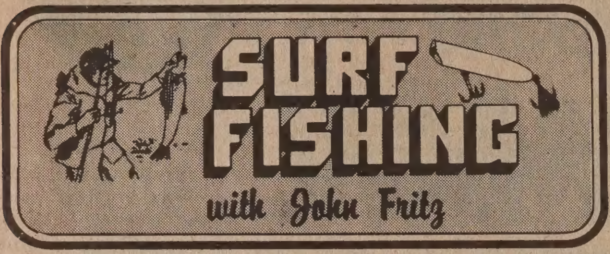

The Potential of Sunken Meadow

In these times of diminishing access to prime surf fishing areas, anglers failing to qualify for the strictly controlled beaches encompassing the greater part of the Long Island shore line will rely more and more on our State Parks. Whether through accident or rarely witnessed foresight, it happens that most of the State Parks lying on the waterfront are situated where ample opportunities are afforded fishermen plying the water's edge. One of these jewels, purchased with taxpayers' money for all to enjoy, lies on the shore on Long Island Sound approximately forty miles from New York City. Located on the western shore of the mouth of the Nissequogue River, Sunken Meadow State Park is an easily accessible area which will produce fine fishing for those willing to spend a minimum of time and effort in acquiring a basic knowledge of the area.

Surfmen desiring to fish in the Park after sunset must obtain a free night fishing pass available at the Administration Offices of most state parks offering saltwater fishing. This permit grants night parking privileges for bona fide fishermen for all such parks with the exception of Caumsett. Specific instructions are printed on the reverse side of the permit which should be followed so that this privilege will be continued in the future.

Sunken Meadow can be roughly divided into three sections for the purposes of surf fishing: the rock infested areas found west of the jetty; the flats from the jetty east to the inlet, and the river. While the inlet itself is probably the most productive area, there are occasions when it is advisable to work the other areas. Several years ago the inlet bar was one of the most popular surf fishing locations on Long Island. Scores of anglers would line up on the bar during the last of the ebb tide feverishly working rampaging bluefish. This type of action was common knowledge, but sly surfmen working the tip of the bar and the river's shore line would take school bass under the cover of darkness. Now with the return of the weakfish, the third prized surf species is once again prevalent in this area.

It does not take extensive beach lore to realize that the inlet would be the most logical area to seek game fish. The substantial wetlands drained by the waters of the Nissequogue yields unlimited nutrients to supply the food chain which eventually attracts the predator game fish. Complying to the basic rule when fishing most inlets, the ebbing tide is the most productive time to fish. Specifically, the last of the drop when the swift currents flush countless bait and other edibles from the shallows to the hungry game fish lurking along the edges of the dropoffs.

Anglers inclined to fishing the inlet should park their cars on the right side of the eastern-most parking field. After a moderate walk along the beach, to the east or right, the angler will find his way blocked by water to his front. At this time a decision must be made to either fish the bar, which would lie to the left, or to work the inside of the inlet to the right. Surfmen fishing this area at night for the first time are advised to turn right and proceed south until they again find their way barred by water to the front. This small creek drains a smaller marsh which lies at the base of the hill behind the parking lots. In years past the confluence of river and creek was an extensive mussel bed which attracted substantial quantities of school bass. Even though the bed has been raped by commercial interests harvesting the shellfish, this location is still a prime spot to try for stripers. Small floating swimmers cast to take best advantage of the sweeping currents usually produces results when the quiet solitude of the night is not shattered by boat traffic on the river. Because the water empties out almost completely, it is better to fish this area early in the ebb tide. Later when the shallows become exposed, a move to the front is advised.

Plugs similar to the four and five inch RedFins and Rebel floaters are often used when seeking fish amongst the bars and mussel beds surrounding the inner point. Split-tail versions of the above are preferred when the current is sluggish, while lures not so readily affected by swift rushing water, such as the Hellcat, are favored when the tide is flowing at full strength.

If after deciding this point is not producing the desired results, make your way back north. Work the entire area, for fish can be found lying anywhere in this sector. Cast up-tide allowing the plug to swing in the current keeping as much slack out of the line as possible. Once the lure is headed into the current, slowly work it along the edge of the channel until the retrieve is completed, making sure to work the plug all the way in, for a strike can be had literally at your feet. Often the fish will rise from the depths of the channel to follow the lure into shallow water before choosing to strike. In this deep water, sinking plugs or deep running plugs such as the Rapala Countdown or Nils Master are frequently more productive.

Upon reaching the Sound, another decision must be made: whether to venture out on the bar or continue along the beach towards the west. Fishing the bar can be dangerous, especially after dark. Only anglers with a knowledge of the layout of the bar and an awareness of the strong currents to be encountered should attempt to wander into this tricky area. The advice so often given in the past, to explore the beach in the daylight at low water, should be followed for first timers desiring to fish this area. Even then one should be accompanied by a companion.

At any rate, the bar is in the shape of the letter L, which is to say that the first section lies roughly perpendicular to the beach with a dogleg or turn to the right to be found a fair distance off the beach. The most productive fishing area is to be found from the second part of the bar with the extreme tip the most favored. Anglers normally cast seaward and slowly work the lure back against the tide. Those fishing from the tip have more freedom with their casting radius for they can work a 135° arc without interfering with other anglers.

Although night is a better time to seek bass from the river, blues and occasionally weakfish can be taken in the early morning or late afternoon hours. Anyone fishing daylight hours must contend with a considerable amount of boat traffic, for this inlet with its exceptional launching ramp is very popular with the small boatmen. Due to the narrowness of the channel, with extensive flats blocking the eastern shore line, boatmen must hang tight along the western edge, thus hindering the anglers working the furthest reaches of the bar. On the other hand, the water depth on the outside of the bar is relatively shallow preventing most boats from approaching too close.

The sandy bottom here permits the use of a wide variety of lures without the fear of snagging bottom, although swimming plugs worked against the full force of the tide do not seem to work as well as other lures. Daylight lures include, but are not limited to, poppers, tins and the increasingly popular leadheaded jigs; while at night any swimming lure which does not gyrate too rapidly in the swift waters can produce.

Specific details on safe passage along this bar cannot be given, for storms can alter its formation overnight. It is advised to edge out slowly checking the shore line for reference points. During the return trip attempts at finding a short cut by cutting the angle can place an unsuspecting angler in danger. Because this bar can be hazardous, it is advised to wear a tight belt to cinch the top of the waders closed in the event one inadvertently steps into deep water. Surfmen using wet suits will have little to fear if a misstep occurs, ensuring greater piece of mind and much more mobility.

The return walk to the parking lot can be made quickly along the water's edge or as many persistent surfmen do, to slowly work the flats, unwilling to pass up any fishable water. By wading waist deep into the water and methodically casting seaward these flats will occasionally produce a surprising amount of fish. All too often attention is centered on the most well known areas while solitary fishermen will pick fish in the peace and quiet away from the crowds.

Another such place can be found along the beach to the west of the jetty. With most consideration given to the inlet areas few surfmen work the beach towards the bluffs where the rock-strewn bottom often attracts prowling bass. The method employed on the flats can be used to advantage here also: wade into the water and slowly side-step while casting forward in a fan-like manner, paying particular attention to any eddies created by the boulders, for these are the favored haunts of striped bass.

The jetty itself is a major attraction for game fish, for the simple reason that it harbors numerous baitfish and marine organisms. In past years there was a sign prohibiting fishing from the jetty itself, but whether this rule will be enforced in the coming season is uncertain a at this time. At any rate, the sides of the jetty can be fished from the beach, probably more thoroughly than from the top of the rocks, by working the lure so that it swims parallel to the sides of the jetty. The up-tide pocket of the jetty often collects masses of baitfish where they are preyed upon by the game fish before they are forced around the tip of the jetty only to be chased by lurking predators waiting in the lee of the point. These two sections of the jetty should be worked diligently for they are the more likely areas to find fish.

Any tackle acceptable to calm water fishing can be used at Sunken Meadow with two possible exceptions. If teen-sized blues are reported in the area, tackle capable of rapidly subduing these beats should be used if crowded conditions exist. Also when fishing the swift currents of a full flowing tide in the river, heavier tackle is required to turn a good fish which is using the current to its best advantage. Waders and such are not absolutely necessary unless the weather is cold and one intends to enter the water; therefore, anglers not equipped with all the specialized paraphernalia commonly used by advanced surfmen can fish this area with a reasonable chance to score.

Striped bass usually ease their way into the waters of Smithtown Bay in sufficient numbers to make a trip worthwhile around the first of May, to be followed shortly by the weakfish. By the end of the month schools of small to medium sized blues can be expected to swarm into this area providing lively action with the best opportunities to be found at daybreak.

As stated in the opening paragraph, our state parks might well be our last footholds on productive beachfront. Even here pressures are being brought to bear to further restrict our privileges and rights. A few years ago a $10 fee was instituted for the right to use the parking fields at night for anglers desiring to fish Sunken Meadow. Nowadays, a free permit covers seven state parks and although this is a step in the right direction, we are limited in which lots we may park our vehicle thereby confining surfmen to fishing locations within walking distance of the parking field. While various organizations continue to seek an expansion of the accessible areas, fishermen using the state parks should be on their best behavior proving to the powers that be that surf fishermen in the parks at night are a positive force which counteracts the negative side so glaringly shown by irresponsible vandals.

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FISH TALK

with William A. Muller

FLOUNDER FACTS, MYTHS & LEGENDS—Part Two

AS I WRITE THIS! I'm getting itchy to go fishing and I daydream about flounder. I'm nuts, right? Maybe, but I don't think so. I get a lot of pleasure from flounder fishing and I put as much effort into it, in season, as I do my surf fishing. We established last week that flounder aren't the easy mark that some say they are. I recall many times when only great finesse and hard work put flounder in the pail. The only thing that I regret about flounder fishing is that I rarely get a day in which the weather conditions permit maximum pleasure. Most of the time, I'm bouncing from wave to wave and trying to keep the cold wind from whipping through my clothing. Would you believe that I have dreams about holding the rod and feeling that telltale weight as a flounder sucks in the bait. Then, I lift the rod slowly and carefully and I wait for the fish to suck the bait deeper and dig for the bottom after I've tricked the little devil into coming off the bottom a few inches. Bam!, then I strike and the flounder charges to the left and then the right. WOW! I love it! It's these feelings about the flounder that gets my mind working and why I came up with the idea of myths, facts, and legends. Last week we reviewed quite a few and this week I want to go over a few more.

BAITS SHOULD BE SMALL! When I was a kid people told me over and over to use small pieces of bait for flounder. Their mouths are small, they told me, and you can't expect them to eat big pieces. Okay, I believed it and then I started to think about it. I picked up a flounder one day and opened its mouth. The fish weighed about a pound-and-a-half. I discovered that I was able to insert my index finger quite far into the mouth. I began to wonder. Could it be that you need big baits for big fish? I remember the experiment we had done in the lab when we observed the behavior of flounder under a variety of conditions. Those flounder were aggressive and they responded to motion. Suppose, I said to myself, that I use a long thin piece of bait and that I put it on the hook in such a way that a good portion of it, about half, trails behind the hook. Now, when I lift the bait or when fishing in a current, the bait will flutter and wiggle. Shouldn't I be able to attract flounder from a good distance just the way we did in the lab? YES! It was a technique that worked and I discovered in my late youth that it was a technique that many sharpies used. In addition, I have found that it is even a good idea to use big baits when the flounder are small for several reasons. First, more bait on the hook means that it takes the little postage stamps longer to clean you which, in turn, means that you have a better chance that a decent fish will catch up to your bait. Then second, there are always one or two bigger fish mixed in with the small fry and the moving large bait may make it easier to snare the big one out of the sea of youngsters.

CORN CHUM IS DANGEROUS TO FLOUNDER! Here is a classic example of how scientific research can help fishermen. The debate about corn used as chum was a "hot" one for a long time. Many concerned fishermen avoided the use of corn chum because they didn't want to hurt the flounder. Many people at that time suggested that the flounder cannot digest the corn—it was an unnatural bait! Mr. Phil Briggs, senior biologist for the DEC, then performed some experiments to prove once and for all whether the corn was harmful or not. In controlled laboratory experiments, Mr. Briggs demonstrated that not only were the flounder able to digest the corn, but when reared on an exclusive diet of corn they flourished! Actually, many things can be used successfully as chum. Corn is just one material, but rice, sand balls, broken shells, mussels, and clams are also materials that are commonly used. Don't fear the use of pulverized shells either, since the flounder do not eat these. They will, however, charge over to the spot where the pieces are raining down towards the bottom. They will not eat the shells, but it is a great way to attract them to your baits. Many good flounder fishermen suggest that shell pieces may even be a superior chum since once the fish are drawn to the fishermen, the only food around is on the hook! They may have something there!

SPEAKING OF CHUM! The age old controversy about how to chum seems appropriate to discuss here. There are those who insist chum should be scattered around the boat and there are those who insist we should always use a chum pot. Although both methods take flounder when there are a lot of hungry fish about, when the fish are picky it may be wiser to keep the chum contained. I'm lined up with those who urge chumming to be done in pots or bags. I don't like to give the flounder a free meal. This is especially true when fishing in deep water since loose chum can drift far afield of the boat—especially if there is a current. Now, if you really want to get expert about this business of chumming, you can fill several burlap bags with chum and weight them down. Tie a few together on a sturdy rope, attach to a buoy marker, and set them out a few hours before you gauge the tide to be best for fishing. It works, but it is a lot of trouble.

FLOUNDER ROE IS GOOD TO EAT! This is one axiom that is true. Many fish have roe that is good to eat. Weakfish roe is savored by many and I remember my grandmother would anxiously await the flounder cleaning in order to get the roe. I'm not an expert on fish roe except I know like everyone else that caviar is the roe of sturgeon and you can eat some roe from some species. I suppose that one of our recipe columnists should take a crack at ways of preparing fish roe, but I'm sure that there are many gourmet approaches. My grandmother preferred to fry it in butter and that's about as simple as you can get. To my knowledge, I have never eaten fish roe and I don't believe that I want to try it. Emotional response without logical input! I know, but I'm entitled!

TWENTY TO THIRTY MINUTES PER SPOT OR WAIT THEM OUT! What should you do? You've been working an area for about a half-hour without appreciable action. You have chummed, you have bounced your sinkers, and you have waited. Should you move or should you stay? If you read the literature about flounder fishing, you'll find both opinions put forth by experts. Some say that you have to chum, chum, chum and wait, wait, wait! They say that it takes time for flounder to find their way to your baits. They say that sometimes the flounder are scattered and by exercising patience and chumming heavily you can draw them to you. Others say that flounder cluster in specific areas. You should, they say, pick a spot and chum heavily for about a half an hour. If there is no action you should move on to another spot and repeat the above procedures. Well, which is fact and which is fiction? I can't be sure since there are really no solid statistics on this. However, I have thought about this a lot and I have discussed this with many fishermen whom I consider to be tops with flounder. They seem to feel that flounder cluster when they're on a feed and, therefore, a fisherman should work specific spots for short periods. They say that when fishermen experience that waiting produces, it is usually associated with a tide change. In many areas, flounder only feed well on certain tides. In Peconic, for example, the best tide is incoming. Sure, there are days when the flounder feed all day, but the typical situation calls for a feeding binge of about three hours on a specific tide. On the wrong tide, the flounder will scatter and they will not eat. I have observed them at such times and they seem to just lay on the bottom without moving. You can stick a piece of mussel right in front of them and they will not take it. Instead, they will move away a few feet. Theoretically then, the patient fishermen who ultimately catch flounder may actually be chumming through a tide in vain only to begin to catch fish once the proper tide stage is reached. At least that's what some good flounder fishermen have to say. Therefore, it is a good idea to plan your assaults when the tide is at an ideal stage. Then go out and hit the good spots, allotting twenty to thirty minutes for each spot to produce. I can relate only one time when I witnessed this work. Usually, I arrive on the grounds when the tide is about one to two hours up in Peconic Bay. One time, I arrived very early and the tide was slack as we began to fish. Chum, chum, chum, but without success. I knew we were early so I set about straightening up the boat while we waited. Well, once the tide started to flood it was as if someone had turned on a switch. Fish began flying over the gunwale and it lasted until the tide went flood slack.

SMALL FLOUNDER WILL DIE IF YOU THROW THEM BACK! There is no yes or no answer to this one since the condition of the fish, how badly they were hooked, and how much damage is done when unhooking will all help to determine whether the fish will live or die after release. However, not all released flounder will die. In fact, the average fish that is in good health and has not been damaged extensively will survive very well. Unfortunately, this myth was created and kept alive by those who want a good excuse to keep flounder regardless of size. The chances of successful release with flounder are probably much higher than some other species, especially game fish, because flounder do not have a high degree of vascularization; that is, a large number of large blood vessels. Game fish swim fast and long, while flounder do not and thus there isn't a need for a lot of blood vessels to take away a large amount of muscular wastes. Thus, flounder tend **not** to bleed as readily and they do not tend to exert themselves to the point of approaching shock. Therefore, most flounder that are released do not need to be "walked" to revive them. Throw them gently into the water and off they go. Saltwater fish aren't like freshwater fish either and, therefore, handling does not tend to encourage the growth of fungi or other microorganisms where they are touched by human hands. On the other hand, if a flounder has taken the bait deep and is bleeding, the chances of successful release diminish. However, even then many will survive because once they are in the water they will stop bleeding quickly and the tissue will begin to heal. Only when flounder are bleeding from the gills is the chance of successful release poor.

DON'T FISH FOR FLOUNDER IN A CURRENT! Is this truth or fiction? Flounder will gather on any bottom that provides food. Usually this is a mud bottom and commonly the current will be very slow or even sluggish. But does that mean that flounder will not be taken in a current. The answer is no! Usually strong currents sweep mud away leaving a sandy bottom or rocks and gravel. However, in some places the water will be deep enough so that the mud is not taken away and under these conditions the flounder will feed there. In fact, a current is often a benefit to feeding flounder since they can stay in one spot and wait for the tide to bring bits of food to them. Currents also prevent the bottom from stagnating. Where the current is sluggish a good flounder bottom may go sour after years of productivity because the organic materials build up to a point where decay begins. When there is a current, the tide will move the excess goodies away and the bottom will remain rich and productive for decades is not hundreds of years.

HOPE YOU HAVE ENJOYED THIS REVIEW. If you have any opinions on these items or if you know about other myths that we have left out, write me a letter care of The Long Island Fisherman.

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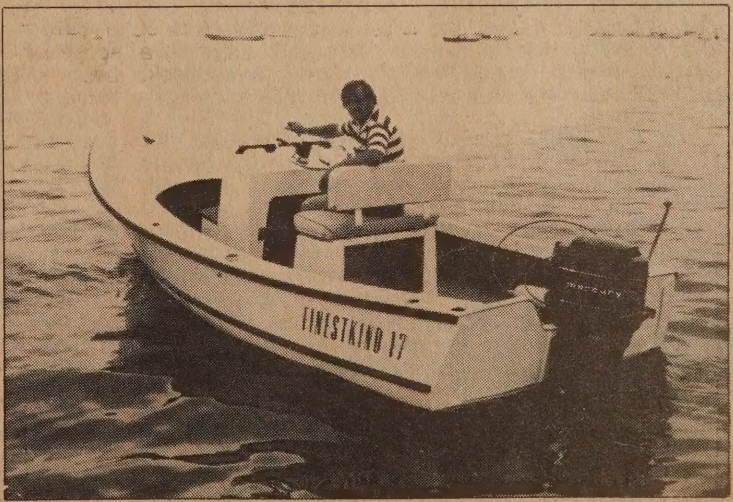


THE IDEAL FISHING BOAT
FOR L.I.'S FISHERMEN

Here we are in the midst of flounder fishing, but fishermen being fishermen, thoughts of mackerel are already looming on the horizon. You just can't beat the optimism of a dedicated sinker bouncer. Perhaps by the time you read this, or more likely within the next ten days, you or someone you know, will have already connected. Good for you—or them—because I, too, expect to be out there sometime during the first week of May. Whether I'll connect is anybody's guess, but I suspect I will. I say this because I've checked through my mackerel-fishing records and find that the best fishing for many years has been between the first and second week of May, peaking about the middle of the month, holding well for a few days and then rapidly dying out by the beginning of the third week (give or take a day or two). By May's end, good mackerel action around Long Island is nothing more than a pleasant memory. All this, of course, should not be taken for anything more than it is—an overall picture of Long Island's spring mackerel fishing. Several years ago we had some good mackerel action before the end of April, and I recall one year when Artie Leidecker and I, along with several of the guys were bailing mackerel on the first day of June. But all in all, the picture it presents is quite accurate and can be depended upon. I'm sure, too, that by the time you read this, there will have already been some mention of mackerel working up the New Jersey Coast.

SINKER BOUNCING

with Matt Ahern

MACKEREL FISHING

But take my advice and hold yourself in check. Slow and easy wins the race this time. Give those fish time to work into our area. I say this because every year some fellows rush the gun and wind up kicking themselves at day's end.

I noticed this was a common practice last year. Along about the third week in April there were strong reports of excellent mackerel fishing. I doubt this not at all. In fact, I know one fellow who went out aboard a party boat and filled a sack with no difficulty. Two days later he made another trip and there wasn't a mackerel caught on the entire boat; the passengers settled for ling.

This is a common occurrence when the fish first move into our area. They flit here and there, with no semblance of order, making it most difficult for private or party boat skippers to zero in with any assurance of success. Mackerel are a feast or famine fish in more than one respect. This is why I believe it best to wait until the schools have settled down—which as mentioned is usually around the beginning of May.

Last year Artie and I made our initial spring mackerel trip on May 1. We had carefully observed the weather for two days previous to our planned trip. It had held together, being partly cloudy to fair, with temperatures in the mid-fifties. What wind predominated for those two days was light and variable, with a tendency to veer to the northeast on tidal changes. Our fishing day dawned cloudy and slightly cooler than we hoped for, with temperatures in the upper forties and without noticeable wind.

But it was good enough for our purpose and if it turned to rain, what could we do about it? We had more or less expected inclement weather anyway, what with fitful warnings from the northeast for two days or so.

Artie decided, what the heck. Let's go!

So, six-thirty that morning we were aboard Artie's "Echo," making our way through Reynold's Channel, heading for Jones Inlet and the open sea. Once outside, we found it calm enough, but what we hoped against hope for, we didn't find: a mackerel sea. This was disappointing to say the least, but as with the weather, there wasn't a thing we could do about it.

Most fishermen who chase mackerel are familiar with the term "mackerel sea," but for those who have never heard of it, it is simply the old-timer's description of a calm sea which is ruffled by light winds blowing along its surface, which in turn, creates a rippling effect. This disturbance often appears in patches, sometimes many acres in diameter; between these patches, the sea may have a glassy appearance.

Why this should make such ideal conditions for excellent mackerel fishing, I don't for the life of me know—but it does. This doesn't mean that you won't catch mackerel unless you have a mackerel sea; only that for some reason when it does exist, the fish bite as if there were no tomorrow. My best mackerel fishing days (when the fish were easiest to find) have always been under such conditions. I guess our old-timers knew their stuff all right, for I certainly can't fault them on their observations.

Anyway, we ploughed along on a heading due south of the inlet until we reached a depth of sixty-five feet. Here we paused. Artie was undecided as to whether we should try a drift first in the hopes of coming across a mackerel school, or drop the anchor, get the chum going, and take our chances. Because of the lack of wind and little tidal movement, we finally decided to drop the anchor, break out the chum and see what the fishing gods held in store.

I secured the anchor, walked to the stern, dipped out a bucket of sea water, added it slowly to the can of ground bunker, reducing it to the consistency of thin soup, gave it a couple extra swirls for good measure, and began to dollop it overside with our homemade scoop.

Artie lowered his diamond jig, stopping it at about what experience had taught was a good working depth and began to flash it with quick, short lifts of the rod. "I don't see any birds," he commented. "Do you?" Meaning that the sight of working birds—gulls and diving gannets in particular—would be a most welcome sight at the moment.

But all I saw were two party boats in the distance, doing exactly what we were doing. I put the glasses on them, but could see no mackerel action. "Looks bad," I said, continuing to ladle the glop.

I continued this for a full fifteen minutes, I guess, making sure the slick flowed out in an unbroken line. Just about the time I figured we were jinxed, Artie let out a whoop.

"Gotcha! Here comes number one!"

The hooked mackerel made a dash under the boat, but Artie calmly winched it to the surface and lifted it aboard. We had our first mackerel of the season: a good fish, well over a pound.

I dropped the ladle, grabbed my rod and made a short, underhand cast, letting the diamond jig peel off the twenty pound mono. I stopped it about the thirty foot level and began to jig.

"How deep are they?" I asked.

"About twenty feet," Artie replied, hooking another.

I cranked in a few feet, jigging all the while.

Pow! I got that rod-stopping jolt all mackerel fishermen know, and after a spirited, rod-bending battle, I lifted a fine, fat mackerel aboard.

A few minutes later we were into a school of mackerel that had been drawn to the chum, and we caught them as fast as we could get the jigs overboard and down to the proper feeding depth. One scrappy mackerel after another came flying aboard. Occasionally one of us would take time out to replenish the chum line. There seemed no end to the fish.

By cautious chumming, we gradually brought our mackerel closer to the surface; we could see them milling around, shoulder to shoulder, racing each other for the tantalizing jigs. Had we substituted mackerel trees for our jigs, we would have had no difficulty boating three or four at a time. But one at a time was all we wanted—enough, as Artie always says, is enough.

And because of this, we only fished until our plastic container was brimful. When our mackerel began to flop over the side of the tub into the decking, we called a halt. Enough was certainly enough.

Such is mackerel fishing off the South Shore of Long Island. It is a short-lived season—three good weeks at best; but when macks are around, who in his right mind would want more than that?

When mackerel are in a feeding frenzy (which is just about all the time), anything that moves, anything that glints, will produce fish. I remember some years ago using strips of waxed paper as an experiment. It worked. And so did plain, unsnelled hooks rigged along the main line—as long as they were plated with a bright finish. Dull-finished hooks such as those which are bronze plated produce nothing.

Incidentally, should you be out there someday and unexpectedly find mackerel in your area and you lack the necessary lures, don't despair. All is not lost. As long as you have a few loose unsnelled bronze plated (or blued) hooks in your tackle box and a bit of aluminum foil, you're in business. (If you haven't, let that be a lesson to you. Make sure that from now on you do.)

Tie a few four inch loops several inches apart along the length of your main line, a foot or so above the sinker, using double-overhand knots. These loop lengths will serve as hook snells. Place your loose hooks on the line by running the end of the loop through the hook eye, doubling it over the hook itself and snubbing against the shank. Wrap the shank with strips of foil. Lower this quickly-made gizmo and catch yourself some mackerel. Works every time.

Finding mackerel is not too difficult, although as with all kinds of fishing, it can be exasperating at times. It is important to remember that the fish move about. Those fish that were in the area today are quite likely to be miles away tomorrow. But this means nothing, for that school is quickly replaced by another—and another, and another, until the run is over.

There are several methods used to locate mackerel schools: anchoring as we did and pouring the chum to them, drifting in a selected area, or trolling along the edges of a known school. To my mind, the best method is to anchor in water from sixty to eighty feet and get the chum overboard. (But this is only because I'm from the old school.)

Your tackle need not be elaborate. Any medium-weight rod and conventional reel filled with 150 yards of twenty pound test mono will do the trick. You can use a spinning outfit (doing so will assure you of utmost sport), but if you're fishing aboard a party boat, better stick with the conventional outfit. When several mackerel take hold at once and you're fishing close quarters with other mackerel fans, many frustrating tangles caused by the fish zipping here and there will make you wish you had brought along conventional stuff. Probably the other fishermen will, too.

The best lure I think, and the easiest to use, is a two to four ounce diamond jig. My preference leans to the smaller one. Tie this directly to the main line with an Improved Clinch Knot. Snap swivels are convenient to use, but unless they have a dull finish, I'd forget them. As noted, mackerel are attracted to the glint of metal and you are sure to miss fish.

Above the diamond jig, you can add several colored plastic tubes or a mackerel tree if you wish. The important thing to remember is to keep those lures in constant motion by jigging. It is the flash of the diamond jig which attracts mackerel to the plastic tubes—not the other way around.

Mackerel are extremely noise-shy, so be careful not to drop anything on deck, or stamp your feet. Macks will sound in a flash if you do. This shyness also applies to line. The old-timer used white linen line and this was the main reason few mackerel were caught in those days as compared with today's outstanding catches. Use nothing but monofilament or other lines of low visibility. Stay away from heavy lines unless you use a five foot leader of twenty pound mono.

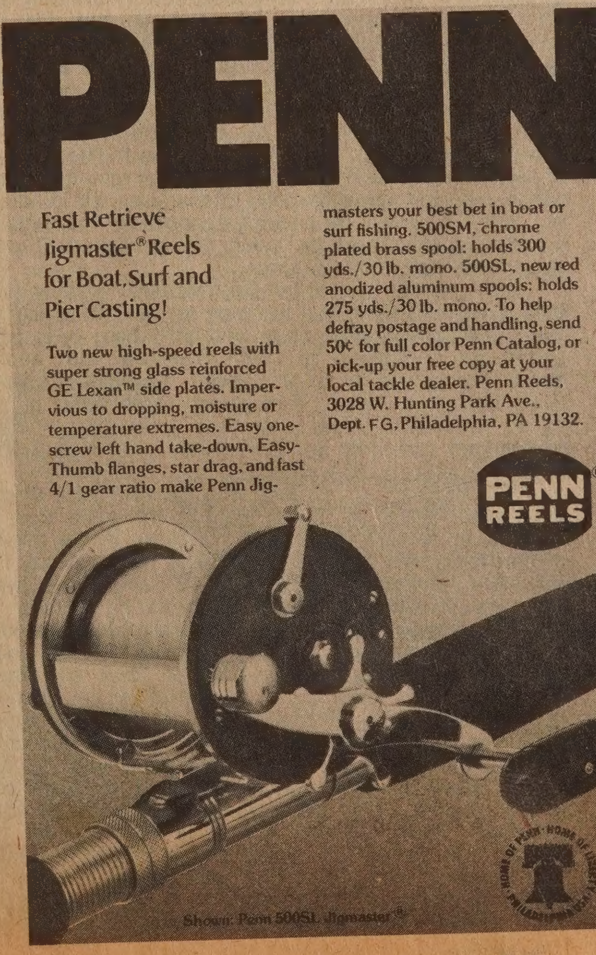
When mackerel fishing with several fishermen aboard a private boat, each should flash a diamond jig at various levels until the first fish is caught. This is the feeding zone at that particular time. When the first fish is hooked, it is smart to immediately daub the line with quick-drying marker ink. Don't substitute knots for this—they'll cut into the line. Experienced fishermen usually find it unnecessary to mark their lines; but until a "feel" for depth is developed, it is best to be ready with the marker.

There are times when mackerel will bite ravenously for an hour, then quit for no apparent reason. If they can still be seen, this is the time to dispense with artificial lures and try natural baits.

Check through the can of bunker chum and select several bunker hearts. Remove all lures and tie on an ordinary flounder hook to the end of your line, add one or two split shot near the hook eye. Impale one or two hearts and peel the line from the reel by hand, feeding the bait into the current. If you feel a light pick, hook your fish instantly. You won't get the jolt you got when using lures. You've got to be quick and give your efforts your undivided attention. This often works surprisingly well and has saved the day for me on many occasions.

If you are interested in catching a few mackerel this spring, whether aboard a party, charter, or private craft, your opportunity will soon be at hand. You'll find it easy enough, and if proper tackle is used, a great deal of heart-thumping sport is sure to be yours. For as anyone who's caught them will tell you: mackerel are fighting fools.

Go out soon and prove it yourself. You're foolish if you don't.



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MIGHTY MIDGETS

ULTRA-LIGHT FISHING FOR MACKEREL

by Sal Terranova

The month of May witnesses tremendous schools of Boston mackerel invading Long Island waters. Heading up from the south, the mackerel cavort in our waters for a frantic three weeks before they leave our area to travel to their summer grounds up north in New England and the Canadian Maritime Provinces, where they pass the summer attempting to evade the giant bluefin tuna frolicking off of Prince Edward Island. Serious mackerel fishing in our region gets underway in early May, although the vanguard of the Bostons swimming north along the Jersey shore often comes into reach of the faster Sheepshead Bay party boats anywhere from mid to late April. On the other end of the spectrum, small schools linger on in Long Island Sound and off of Montauk for a couple of weeks after the main body of fish has departed; extending their stay past Memorial Day certain years.

The arrival of the mackerel generates a copious amount of excitement along Long Island anglers. Having a reputation as an easy fish to catch that's very abundant to boot, the mackerel primarily attracts those who want to experience fast fishing and fill their freezers in the bargain. Hordes of anglers can be seen scampering about the party boat piers on any given morning dragging their thirty gallon plastic pails aboard the vessels with one hand, while waving aloft their boat rods, lines festooned with plastic tube lures of every color under the sun, with the other hand. Those already aboard their favorite boat prepare for the impending battle with the same frenetic intensity as the gladiators of yore. They can be observed applying the finishing touches to their rigs by tying treble-hooked Diamond jigs to the ends of their lines.

Many anglers who fish for mackerel employ tackle that is far too heavy for the size of the fish concerned. They use conventional reels and stiff boat rods better suited for codfishing to catch mackerel that average about one pound or so in weight. Using lines testing thirty pounds or better, they attach three, four, or even more "mackerel tubes" to their lines along with a tri-pronged Diamond jig. Effective?....no doubt. Sporting?...No way in the world!

The majority of anglers who go after the Bostons are "meat fishermen"; they want to catch the most fish possible in the shortest amount of time. While those in the lower income brackets with large families may have a legitimate need for a bucketful of fish to help defray expenses in this era of ever-escalating prices, the majority of anglers do not have such a pressing need. In fact, quite a few of these "sportsmen" have trouble giving away all the Bostons which they so intently concentrated on catching in the first place. Some of these jokers end up throwing fish into the garbage or fertilizing their tomato gardens with them. The ocean is not a limitless resource to be exploited at will, certainly not for these mundane reasons. Although mackerel are a prolific species, even their stocks have been dwindling in recent years, mostly due to overfishing by both foreign and domestic commercial fishermen. Angling is supposed to be a sport. If it was strictly a matter of gathering the most fish possible in the shortest amount of time, we would all be better off making an early morning visit to the Fulton Fish Market or going into the commercial fishing business and saving time and money in the process. This spring, why not serve the cause of conservation and simultaneously enjoy some great sport by trying ultra-light fishing for mackerel. Not only will you have a lot of fun, but an introduction to the joys of ultra-light will open new frontiers and give you a different perspective towards angling.

The Boston mackerel (**Scomber scrombrus**), also known as Atlantic mackerel, is not considered a game fish by most anglers and certainly not by the IGFA. In this case, however, the mackerel's diminutive size has more to do with its non-game status than its fighting abilities, which it possesses aplenty. The mackerel is a member of the Scromboid family of fishes, a group that numbers amongst its ranks such gamesters of renown as the bluefin tuna, the false albacore, king mackerel, wahoo...the list goes on and on. Endowed with streamlined, muscular bodies which gives them the necessary strength and swiftness to chase down their prey, the Scromboid fishes are shining examples of Mother Nature's artistry in designing her creatures to perfectly fit their niche in the environment—in this case, that of pelagic predators. The mackerel also possesses the renowned characteristics of its larger cousins; streamlined and powerful, their speed leaves nothing to be desired. If you've ever had three macks on a meat rig who simultaneously all decide to swim in the same direction, you know their strength doesn't leave much to be desired either. Even on a thirty pound test filled 4/0 Senator and trolling rod that can whip a good-sized blue shark, a solitary mackerel will at least let you know he's there!

Ultra-light fishing for mackerel lends itself ideally to spinning gear, although you can get good results with freshwater bait casting outfits. Actually, the title of this article is something of a misnomer, because the tackle that is best suited for party boat mackerel fishing falls into the "light" category, a class where lines testing six to eight pounds are employed. Bona fide ultra-light gear, where lines used test two and four pounds, is a bit ridiculous to use on a party boat when one takes into consideration the crowd factor and the ensuing possibilities of tangles that it presents. The number of anglers aboard should determine whether or not you should use ultra-light (which from this point on shall be referred to as UL). You can more or less forget about UL on a party boat on weekends, as the boats are packed from stem to stern during the height of the mackerel run. Your chances are better on weekdays, but check with the crew beforehand. Some captains and their mates will not mind you using UL gear providing the crowds are reasonably light, and they may assist you by steering the way clear for you around other anglers, thus avoiding possible tangles. If you are still wet behind the ears, that is, you haven't had much experience with UL, it would be deemed very wise to restrict your first encounters with the Bostons to a private vessel or a charter boat.

Light class spinning gear will serve you best on a party boat if you are just getting into this game. While this tackle is still light enough for you to enjoy good sport with, lines testing six to eight pounds will provide a margin for error that will allow you to "horse" a fish to stay out of a tangle. The heavier lines (six pound test is heavy?...) will enable you to swing a mackerel aboard without fear or popping the line or incurring the wrath of the mate by constantly calling for the net.

In order to give you a more concrete idea as to what the differences between UL and light tackle are, let me mention some specific brands and models of popular rods and reels and typical specifications of each category: UL rods measure from 4½' to 6' and weigh four ounces or less, while reels in this class weigh circa ten ounces or less and have a line capacity of 150 to 200 yards of six or four pound test. The Fenwick #149 spinning rod matched with the Daiwa Mini-Mite reel is a good example of an UL rig, one that I happen to own and that has served me in good stead. The Shakespeare 2400 and 2800, the Penn 716, the expensive Alcedo Micron, and the Zebco Cardinal #4 are prime quality UL reels.

Two and four pound test lines are used in UL spinning. While some consider six pound test to fall into this category, most serious UL anglers feel six pound test line rightfully belongs in the "light" tackle class. There is a world of difference between two and four pound test. If you have never fished UL before, use four pound test your first time out. Although it's obvious that the successful deployment of UL tackle requires the utmost in finesse and patience in playing a fish, combined with an in-depth knowledge of the limits of your tackle, four pound test—while light—will give you a **slight** margin of safety that will compensate for small errors on your part. However, the slightest error in playing a fish when using two pound test will most certainly result in a severed line; the embarrassment will leave you with a flushed red face that will make a tomato look pale by comparison. Two pound test line is only for those who have paid their dues through plenty of experience with UL fishing.

"Light" class spinning tackle takes in rods measuring from 6' to 7½'. Lines testing from six to eight pounds are used with slightly larger spinning reels such as the Garcia 300, the Shakespeare 2430, and the Daiwa Silver 1500, just to mention a few. The Fenwick FS65 is a fine spinning rod that exemplifies this class of tackle. One advantage that "light" tackle has over UL is its capability to handle heavier lures. The Bostons feed deep at times; anglers using meat tackle must employ four ounce jigs to reach them. Under these circumstances, you will at least need a jig in the one to one-and-a-half ounce range to stand a chance of getting down to their feeding level. "Light" class tackle will enable you to use lures of such weights in order to get down to the payoff zone; with UL you wouldn't stand a chance.

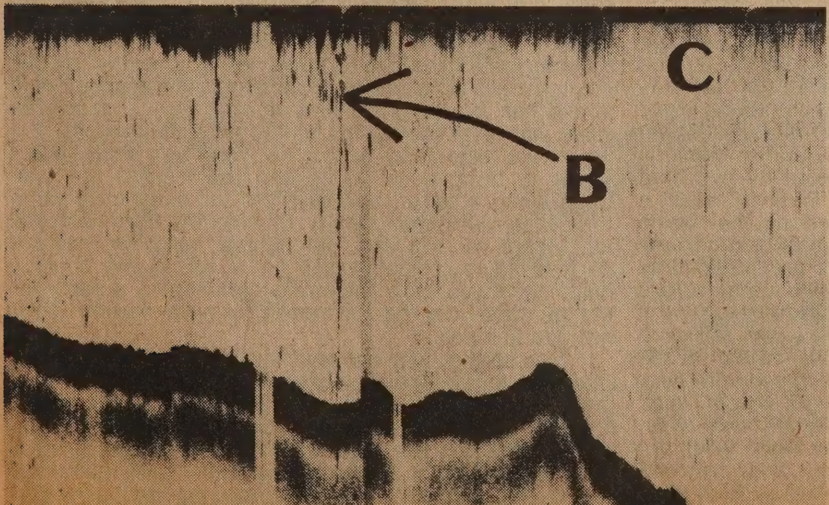
As you can see, both categories of tackle have their advantages and disadvantages: UL will provide you with the maximum amount of sport, but its use is not always practical. Light tackle will serve you better under diverse conditions; its use is practical on a crowded boat or when the fish are deep. However, while you'll still enjoy a lot of sport, taking mackerel on light tackle won't be nearly as much fun or as challenging as catching them with UL gear is.

When using UL gear, tackle must always be in A-1 condition; UL is no place for sticky drags, grooved guides and the like for these impairments will surely bring you grief. Keep in mind that the fragile nature of the tackle will eliminate the margin of safety against line breakage that you have when using heavier tackle possessing the same impairments. In other words, if you have worn or grooved guides on your rod and you're using thirty pound test line, the thickness of the line will provide a buffer against its being easily cut. However, the slightest imperfection on a guide will sever hair-thin two pound test as easily as the proverbial hot knife through butter. Always check tackle before a trip to ensure that lines are free of nicks, reels are properly lubricated with drags in good working order, and that guides are in good shape. Meticulousness in tackle maintenance is as much a part of successful UL fishing as proper diet and conscientious training are a part of an Olympic athlete's regimen.

Although mackerel can be caught on bait, fishing for them is almost the exclusive province of artificials, thanks to the Boston's eagerness to strike almost any colorful contraption thrown at them. Due to the nature of the gear used, UL fishing for macks strictly calls for the use of a single lure, which also happens to be the most sporting manner in which to take them.

There are many lures which will elicit a response from the Bostons, but there are favorites. The more popular lures include the Acme Kastmaster, the Hopkins No=Eql and Shorty, the Luhr-Jensen Krocodile, the Bridgeport Diamond Jig, and the time-honored Mackerel Jig, which features a single 1/0 hook built into the body. Regardless of whichever lure you choose to use, the weight of the lure should fall between one-quarter and one ounce, with an ounce-and-a-half tops for those occasions when the fish feed deep. The type of outfit you use will, to a large extent, determine the weight of the lure you use. A "Light" spin rod equipped with eight pound test will handle an ounce-and-a-half jig, but would be unable to effectively cast a one-quarter ounce lure; whereas an ounce-and-a-half jig used with a UL "buggy whip" rod would be ridiculous.

The effectiveness of these lures will be enhanced if you choose the models whose hooks are adorned with



A sample of light tackle mackerel lures. Left, top to bottom: Bridgeport Diamond Jig, Hopkins No-Eql, Acme Kastmaster, Mackerel Jig. Luhr-Jensen Croc-o-dile Spoon. Right, top to bottom: Streamer, Bucktail, Mepps spinner, Shad Dart. The lures range in weight from 1½-ounce to less than ¼-ounce.

brightly colored feathers or tufts of bucktails. A small strip of pork rind attached to the hook won't hurt either, although neither the rind or the tail adornments are essential. If the lure you intend to use offers a choice of models equipped with single or treble hooks, be certain to purchase the model with the single hook, as this will facilitate the unhooking of fish. Whenever possible, use a lure that has a free-swinging hook which is attached to the body of the lure via a swivel or split ring, or a combination of both. This feature will prevent fish from throwing the hook by using leverage between the body of a lure and a fixed hook. A swinging hook will make it next to impossible for the fish to take advantage of the leverage factor.

The lures mentioned above are all chrome-finish jigs, which no doubt are among the most effective mackerel lures. However, there are other types of lures that prove lethal to the Bostons. Small tube lures are obvious killers, but their extremely light weight makes them unfeasible to fish without adding sinkers or heavier lures to your rig and thereby negating the whole concept of single lure UL fishing. Small bucktails in the one-quarter to one ounce range are very effective at times. Yellow or white are good colors to use, while hammered-finish chrome-headed bucktails can be absolute dynamite! Small "Jap feather" jigs, weighted yellow, red, or white streamers, "shad darts" (a variety of tiny bucktails used in freshwater shad fishing) and both freshwater and the smaller saltwater spinners (especially effective when tipped with pork rind) have all proved their worth by taking mackerel on many occasions. Suffice it to say, when mackerel are really thick, almost anything you throw at them within the bounds of common sense will most likely get a response from them.

Finding the depth at which the mackerel are feeding at is the most critical factor in determining your success. If you don't consistently zero-in on their feeding level, you will not have much luck regardless of whatever lures and fancy retrieves you use. To zero-in on the feeding level, let your lure sink as deep as possible and then commence to retrieve, roughly keep track of the depth of your lure by counting the number of times you've turned the handle of the reel. When you get a hit, keep in mind how many turns off the bottom it occurred. After that first fish, place your lure at that depth with no further ado, by letting the line run through your fingers as it heads for the depths as you roughly note the amount of footage released. Of course, you can also use the first method described for keeping track of the depth with equally good results.

As mackerel are not among the fussiest of fish when it comes to deciding what lures to strike, it stands to reason they won't be overly fussy as far as retrieves and lifelike presentation of lures is concerned either. Work your lures in the manner that is considered "Standard Operating Procedure" for the particular lure you're using; perhaps adding a herky-jerky jigging motion while keeping the retrieve a bit on the fast side to allow for the mackerel's fast feeding nature. In other words, if you are using a spoon such as the Luhr-Jensen Krocodile, retrieve it as you would any spoon, possibly applying some jigging motion by occasionally twitching the rod as you reel in. Work a Bucktail with a slow-to-medium retrieve while lazily jerking the rod to make the lure do a slow tango, darting back and forth as it moves through the water. Bucktails are particularly effective when tipped with pork rind. "Jap feathers" are best worked in the same manner as Bucktails, although the retrieve should be faster. Spinners are best retrieved steadily at a fast rate, with an occasional twitch on the rod to spice things up. They should be tipped with pork rind also for best results. Due to their light weight, shad darts and weighted streamers are effective only when the fish are feeding close to the surface. These lures can work wonders when retrieved slowly and twitched enticingly back and forth. They can also be kept at a steady depth and jigged gently and slowly.

Chrome finish jigs such as the Kastmasters and the Hopkins, can be fished in two ways. First, you can hold them steady at the feeding level (no retrieve) and jig them up and down with steady strokes of the rod. The second method brings out the best action built into these lures. Cast them out and let them sink deep, if not to the bottom. Use a steady and rapid retrieve, while twitching the rod every couple of turns of the handle to impart a seductive motion. The Diamond and Mackerel jigs work best when jigged at a steady level with no retrieve used, although when first setting out to find the depth at which the fish are active, you should let your lure down to the bottom and retrieve it, stopping every few feet to jig it for a minute or two. Keep this up until you hit fish. The methods of working lures that I've described here are intended to serve as a basic guide. Don't be afraid to experiment on your own, for only through trial-and-error will you ever become skillful at anything. Keep in mind also that when the macks are really thick, it's hard to do anything wrong in this department!

There is really only one way to become proficient at handling fish on UL, and that way is to go out and fish UL. Actual experience with UL tackle will teach more than any article, and only by actual experience will you become familiar with the fine points and intricacies of UL fishing. However, I can pass on the basic do's and don'ts which will give you a general idea of the game and that will hopefully help you to avoid many of the mistakes that often prove to be the pitfall of those undergoing their baptism of fire.

Obviously, you never attempt to "muscle" a fish in. Believe me—the odds are against you. The only exception, and this is a moot point indeed, would be where circumstances leave you no choice. A fish heading for the propeller perhaps; you may as well try to "horse" him away from this obstacle because you'll lose him anyway if he wraps the line around the screws. If you pop the line, so what? Let the fish fight the rod, and always let him take line when he demands it. Whenever the fish shows signs of tiring or resting, immediately apply pressure by working the rod to gain line by **SLOWLY** pumping, keeping always on the alert to let the fish run if he should suddenly come back to life. "Pumping" entails slowly raising the rod to bring the fish towards you, and then quickly lowering the rod to a horizontal position. You will gain slack line with this maneuver by quickly reeling as you lower the rod. Never let the fish rest!

Always follow the fish to wherever he's heading; all around the boat if need be. Keep alert for the possibility of the fish leading you into a tangle with other anglers' lines or obstructions such as the anchor line. It is much easier to steer clear of obstacles than it is to free your line from them once you are entangled. The most critical stage of the game arrives when you bring the fish within sight. You may think he is whipped, but more often than not, the sight of the boat or an approaching net will spark a frantic last-ditch bid for freedom from your adversary. Quite a few anglers lose the battle at this point; caught off-guard by a sudden lunge that succeeds in the fish breaking the line or otherwise engaging in some maneuver that allows him to gain his freedom.

If you are going to fish on your own craft, don't forget to bring a net along and use it! You can also bring along a can of bunker chum for those days when the fish are scattered. Chum will coax the Bostons to the top, where you can use your lightest tackle. It may not be feasible to constantly call for a net aboard a party boat, but if you think the strain of swinging a fish over the gunwale may be too much for your tackle, don't hesitate to do so.

This spring, why not give the "Mighty Midgets" a chance to show what they're really made of? You'll find that this lightweight will give you heavyweight thrills provided you scale down your tackle to battle him on fair ground. Even if you want to fill your freezer, bring a light outfit along with the heavy stuff. After you fill a bucket (you glutton!) with your meat rig, try catching a few macks on the light rig. I'm sure after trying this once, an ultra-light spinning outfit will become a permanent part of your "Mackerel Tackle."

THE FISHERMAN QUIZ

① **FLOUNDERS** CANNOT BE BOUGHT OR SOLD IN N.Y. STATE IF THEY ARE LESS THAN

7 IN. ☐

8 IN. ☐

9 IN. ☐

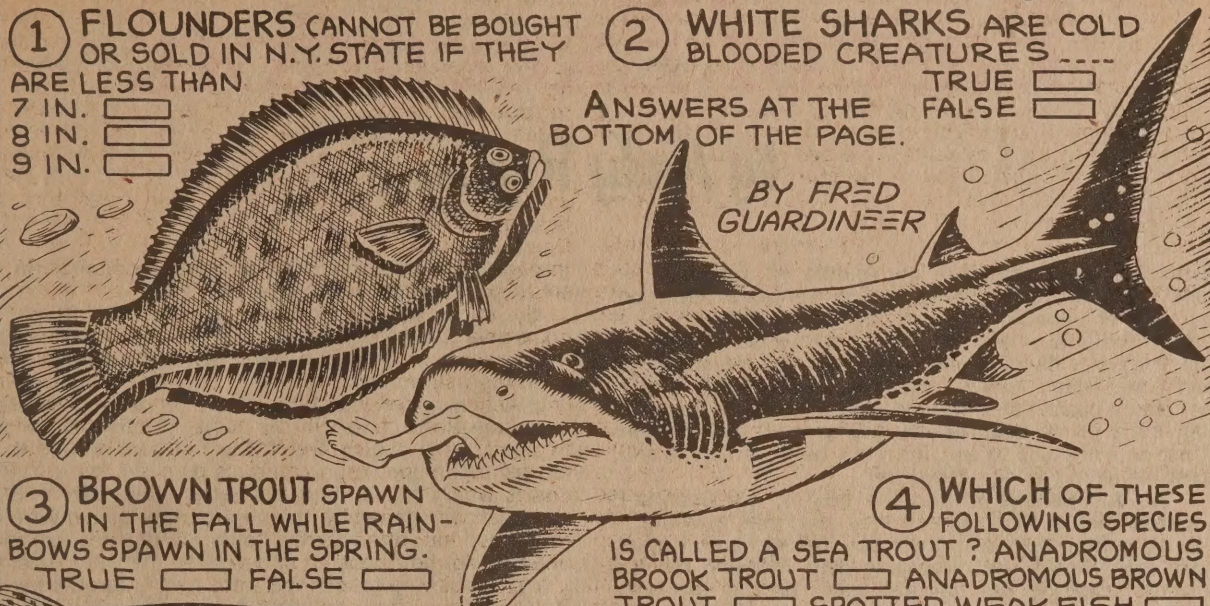
② **WHITE SHARKS** ARE COLD BLOODED CREATURES ....

TRUE ☐

FALSE ☐

ANSWERS AT THE BOTTOM OF THE PAGE.

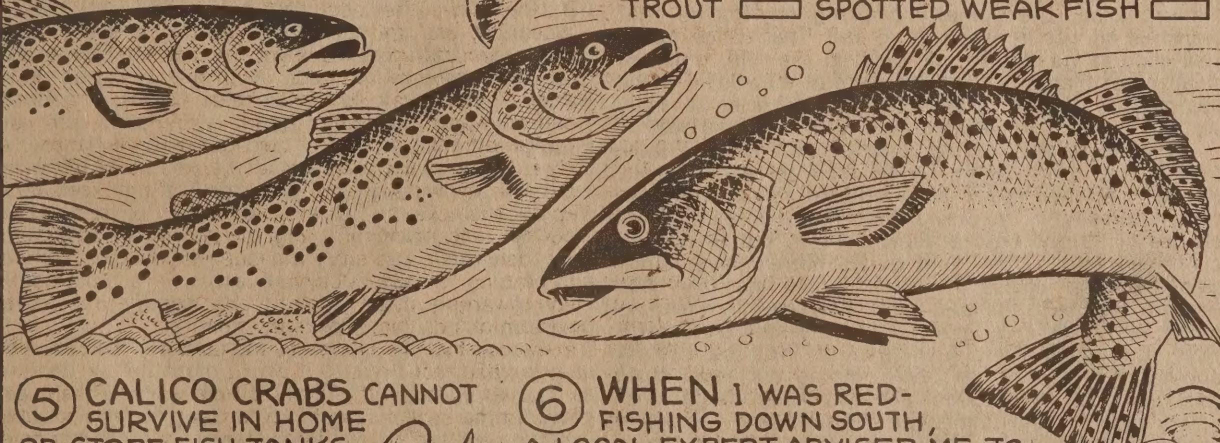
BY FRED GUARDINEER



③ **BROWN TROUT** SPAWN IN THE FALL WHILE RAINBOWS SPAWN IN THE SPRING.

TRUE ☐ FALSE ☐

④ **WHICH** OF THESE FOLLOWING SPECIES IS CALLED A SEA TROUT? ANADROMOUS BROOK TROUT ☐ ANADROMOUS BROWN TROUT ☐ SPOTTED WEAKFISH ☐

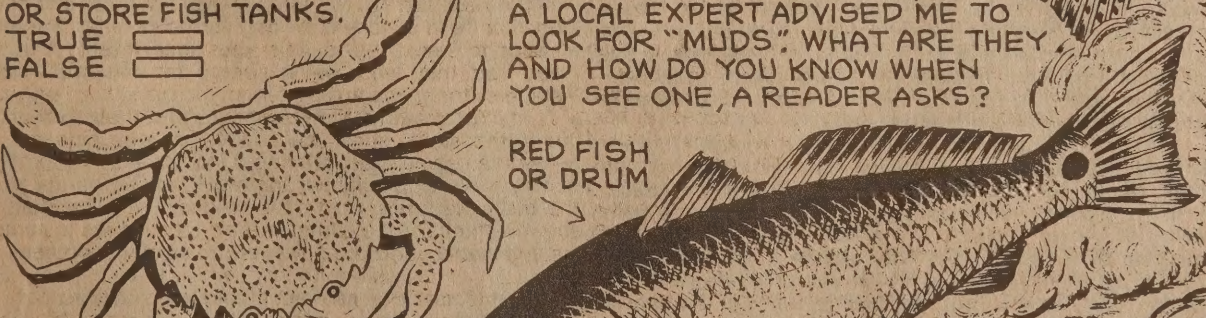


⑤ **CALICO CRABS** CANNOT SURVIVE IN HOME OR STORE FISH TANKS.

TRUE ☐

FALSE ☐

⑥ **WHEN** I WAS REDFISHING DOWN SOUTH, A LOCAL EXPERT ADVISED ME TO LOOK FOR "MUDS". WHAT ARE THEY AND HOW DO YOU KNOW WHEN YOU SEE ONE, A READER ASKS?



1 - 8 INCHES. 2 - FALSE. A BUGGED WHITE SHARK WAS FOUND TO HAVE A TEMPERATURE *5°* CELSIUS ABOVE THE WATER TEMPERATURE. 3 - TRUE. BUT STOCKED RAINBOWS CAN BE EXCEPTIONS. 4 - ALL ARE REGIONALLY KNOWN AS *SEA TROUT.* IN NEW ENGLAND SEA-RUN BROOK TROUT ARE ALSO KNOWN AS "SALTERS". *5* - TRUE. 6 - "MUDS" APPEAR AS CLOUDY PATCHES OF WATER CAUSED BY THE FISH ROOTING IN THE BOTTOM FOR FOOD AND ARE ALWAYS GOOD PLACES TO CATCH FISH.

NORTH SHORE MACKEREL—

East of Execution!

by Andy Regina

Execution Light stands in the middle of western Long Island Sound, sentinel-like as it performs the dual purpose of warning ships of the shoals beneath as it directs the flow of boat traffic east and west. Located on the imaginary dividing line between Bronx, Westchester, and Long Island waters, this pre-Revolutionary light is not only a beacon at night and a sad, mournful hooter in fog, but a prime landmark by day as well. And we seek it out on every trip to and from our berth at City Island, to guide us in the right direction.

As Joe Batista pointed the bow of his Georgia-B towards that beacon on our way out that morning, I started getting busy with the many jobs at hand: rigging rods, tying hooks, and preparing bait; readying the two anchors, clearing the net and gaff, tidying the open fishing area, then finally pouring the coffee that signalled all was in readiness to Joe. That coffee tasted real good as we relaxed and enjoyed the ride, trying to finalize our plans. Because we were at that point of the season that offered several choices of species to seek, we had not yet fully decided what choice seemed best.

Flounders were biting good at Half Moon Beach, but we had been fishing for flounder for a few weeks already, and their appeal started to pall for us. We were more interested in the blackfish at Prospect Point, or the chance of striped bass at Sand's Point, but both were contingent on big "ifs," and we just weren't sure which was the wiser choice to make. If the incoming tide brought the blacks inshore, and if they were in a feeding mood, and if we could get our favorite spot on Purdy's Reef, at Prospect Point. A while lot of "ifs," but barring another boat beating us there, finding our exact right spot would be no problem. Joe had visual ranges that would pinpoint the immediate vicinity, and our graph recorder would reveal the exact location to us. (It is crucial to get over the exact spot for blackfish, as quite often even a near-miss of a couple of feet means the difference between success or failure.) And, once over the exact spot, the use of a bridle anchor would keep us in place until we were ready to leave.

And if we fished for blackfish, we couldn't try for striped bass because we would find an outgoing tide that would too soon make the rock-strewn shallow inshore grounds too hazardous to fish. We were both dying to try for stripers; I'm a bass freak, but Joe has me beat by a mile, and it has become a yearly friendly rivalry between us, to see which one of us scores first. So far, Joe has me beat, but not by enough for me to concede to his prowess, and so our competition continues.

Because of all this uncertainty, we brought along enough bait to keep an army of fish happy for a week, or so it seemed at the time. Fiddler crabs, green crabs, and steamer clams for the blackfish; great big "troller" sandworms, for the striped bass; regular sandworms for flounder fishing (it's a shame to use those beautiful trollers for flounder), and even a bushel of mussels, for flounder chum. As you can see, we don't believe in going off half-cocked, and even though the price of bait keeps spiraling out of sight, it is cheap enough insurance against coming home skunked.

We don't indiscriminately waste our bait either; beside the cost in money, this natural resource is not an endless one by any means, so the refrigerator and the freezer in Joe's basement play an important part in our conservation efforts, and bait salvaged from one trip is kept in good condition until the next trip.

So, as we sipped our coffee, we mentally flipped a coin, trying to decide which way to turn when we neared Execution Light, which we were fast approaching. And as I turned, from force of habit, to check if the water pump of our motor was functioning properly, I spotted the telltale flash of fish in our wake. A shout from me saw Joe cut the engine and swing the boat around in a wide arc, all in one motion, and we both sat there trying to spot fish sign, to find out what they were. As I strained, trying to pierce the very depths with my eyes, Joe flipped on the recorder and started reading the print-out. We both spotted fish—me in the water behind us, and Joe on the graph. We were over a large body of fish, that was certain, but what type of fish were they?

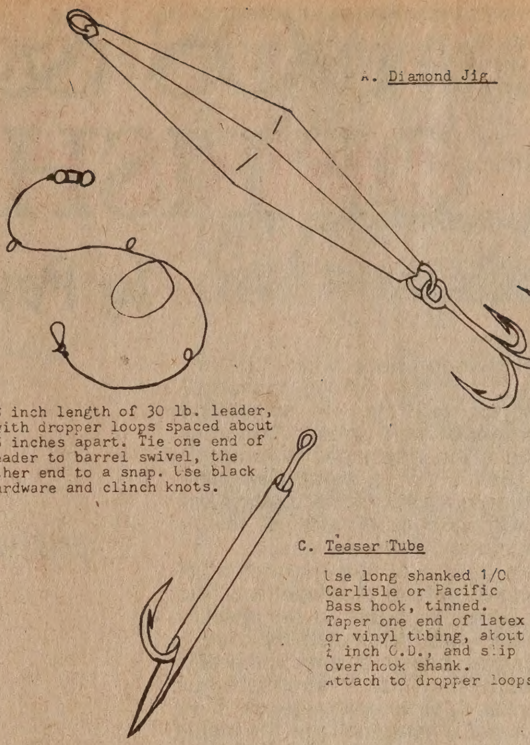
Shoals of fish are not uncommon to the Sound; even the heavily trafficked western end that comprises our piscatorial playground gets its share of these large schools from time to time. We host hordes of baitfish, small stuff such as spearing and, lately, sand eels; and bigger stuff such as herring and bunker (menhaden). In fact, it is these very baitfish that we rely on to bring the big boys following after—the predators that feed upon these schools. Game fish such as striped bass, bluefish, weakfish, and mackerel follow the schools of baitfish as they travel their migratory routes, feeding along the way and pausing to dally in bait-rich areas for a time, before they continue their pursuit, as deadly as wolves pursuing caribou on some frozen tundra.

Discerning the species of the school of fish beneath us was important because it would motivate our decision as to what species to fish for. If they were baitfish, and proved to be bunkers, we'd try to snag some with those weighted trebles that we always keep handy on the boat, then fish them alive and kicking for stripers off the jetty at Sand's Point. If the bait was small stuff, it could mean that they were being chased by mackerel—more "ifs!"

The scratches of the stylus etched a clear picture to our trained eyes: small stuff under us, with bigger stuff below them—mackerel feeding on sand eels! Then, as if to verify our findings, fish surfaced not ten yards from the boat, scattering the small bait, and causing them to shower up out of the water in their frantic bids to escape sudden death. And the fish were mackerel, hundreds of them!

The Atlantic mackerel (**Scomber scombrus**) is a member of a large family that includes the king mackerel, cero mackerel, chub mackerel, Pacific mackerel, and Spanish mackerel. In turn, this group is related to the tunas, bonitos, and the wahoo—quite a fairly large family indeed. Comparisons of individual species reveals many family resemblances, all startlingly similar to each other. All rather handsome looking fish, they feature torpedo-shaped, streamlined bodies, tapering down to a sickle-like tail that denotes most marine speedsters. And they all feature another distinctive similarity—a series of small finlets extending to the tail from the dorsal fin on top, and from the anal fin to the tail on the bottom. These fin-like protuberances act to cut down water resistance, much as air foils cut down wind resistance, allowing these speedy gamesters to swim even faster, by reducing the drag on their bodies.

And these fish are literally born to swim. Lacking



A. Diamond Jig

B. 48 inch length of 30 lb. leader, with dropper loops spaced about 15 inches apart. Tie one end of leader to barrel swivel, the other end to a snap. Use black hardware and clinch knots.

C. Teaser Tube

Use long shanked 1/0 Carlisle or Pacific Bass hook, tinned. Taper one end of latex or vinyl tubing, about ¼ inch O.D., and slip over hook shank. Attach to dropper loops.

an air bladder that would permit them to rest, the mackerel has no choice but to either sink or swim. And boy, can they swim. From Labrador and New England in the north, to Cape Hatteras and the North Carolina coast in the south; their range is quite extensive, and is motivated by water temperature, pursuit of food, and that uncontrollable urge to spawn. After wintering offshore, in the spring they heed the call of nature, and swarm inshore to spawn, swimming north as waters warm and then retracing their migration in the fall, when waters start to cool again, thus furnishing us with two chances to get some great fishing done.

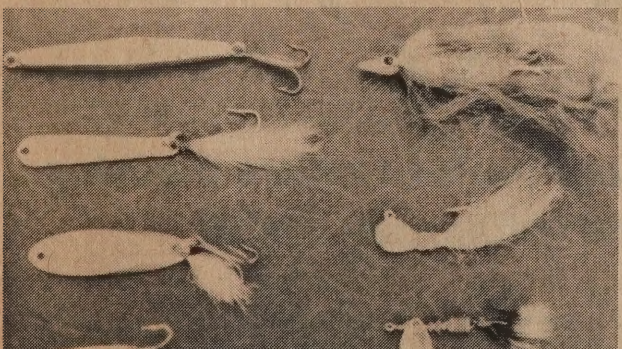
So it comes to pass that we on Long Island Sound look forward to mackerel providing sport each spring and fall, with the emphasis on the former. I don't honestly know if the fall run of mackerel is as great as that in the spring, because in the fall we are kept busy in our pursuit of other, perhaps more formidable battlers, such as the blackfish, bluefish, and striped bass that then go into a protracted feeding spree as they fatten up prior to their own migrations.

But right now, there we were, sitting on top of a school of mackerel, and feeling foolish. We were caught totally unprepared, and although reports of mackerel in the Sound had filtered down to us, the schools had been sighted farther east, a little too far from us to warrant our pursuit in a sixteen foot boat; so we waited anxiously for our chance to come when the fish got a little closer to home. Man, you don't know what the word "foolish" means! There we were, Joe and I, with egg all over our faces, two supposed "pros" who should have known better—caught unprepared!

Had we but known, we would have brought along a can of chum, that ground-up gruel of bunkers that so fatally attracts mackerel to your boat, when it is doled out to form an enticing slick that whets mackerel appetites, and brings 'em searching for the source. We did have some jigs with us, but that was sheer luck, and not due to the foresight wiser fishermen than we possess. I had recently received a supply of new lures from Mickey Chiarenza, the president of Tri-Fin Lures, and was so impressed with their potential that I brought a few to show to Joe, figuring to keep them on the boat until we got an opportunity to try them out.

Figuring that the time was ripe, I dug them out. Called "Sandeel Jigs," they so remarkably resembled real sandeels in size, color, and appearance, that even though I thought they were intended for bottom bouncing, I decided to give them a try. After all, weren't sandeels high on the mackerel's list of preferred food, along with marine worms, mollusk larvae, squid, and small baitfish?

Normally we fish for mackerel with what is commonly called a mackerel tree—a rig consisting of a diamond jig preceded by two or more tinker tubes, hook-enclosed vinyl or latex tubing (see drawing). When jigged in the water in the vicinity of feeding mackerel, this so resembles a small pod of baitfish that mackerel cannot resist it, and catches of two, three, and even four mackerel at a time are common.



Printout clearly shows bottom confirmation (A) and fish (B). Readings across top (C) are of the thermocline, which is simply the difference in the water density at the surface that is caused by a slight difference between surface and subsurface temperatures.

Tying these new lures to ultra-light tackle, our first attempts substantiated our belief in their effectiveness, and both Joe and I started catching fish immediately. Taken on ultra-light tackle and a single lure, these small gamesters really gave us a workout, and we were having a ball when the action abruptly ceased, like someone had shut a door on us. We had drifted out of the school, which went along with their pursuit of the bait, taking them out of our reach. And we had no chum with which to maintain the mackerels' interest, a fact that I was loudly bemoaning to Joe, who was bent over, busily engaged in an act that I could not at first discern.

When he finally straightened up with a wide grin on his kisser, I saw that he had made an impromptu chum out of the mussels, steamer clams, and green crabs that we had brought for other designs. And he even chopped some fiddler crabs and sand worms into the mix, which he proceeded to dole over the side, giving me a shrug of the shoulders that seemed to say, "What the hell; we have nothing to lose, do we?"

As crazy as it sounds, this chum worked for us, drawing the mackerel to us once again, enabling us to continue our merry mayhem until we had a pail full, after which we quit, to try trolling for bass at Sand's Point. But that's another story, reserved for another time, so we won't burden you with it now.

Our arrival back at the dock was always usually well met, and because of our fair successes, we were constantly plagued with many questions. Not hesitant to divulge the "hot" lures of each trip, or our choice or baits or even general fishing areas, we still jealously guarded the exact location from all but a few close friends. To all who persisted in trying to determine our "hotspot" of the moment, Joe had fallen into the habit of saying, "south of Execution."

What a secret delight it was when that day he actually did reveal the location, and no one believed him. Was it because, instead of his usual retort, that day he chose to say, "East of Execution?"

DOS & DON'TS OF FISHING LINE

by Paul Johnson

Ever wished there was ''instant replay'' on your fishing mistakes? Then you could stop the action and analyze what went wrong. They may not have the videotapes to prove it, but there's not a fisherman alive who doesn't have mental replay and his own theories of why he lost a prize winning fish.

The fault in self-diagnosis of fishing misfires is that emotions take over where facts fail. In the absence of hard facts, psychologists caution us, human beings become vulnerable to what they call ''superstitious behavior.'' How many times have you heard a fisherman put the blame on a ''bad line,'' ''faulty reel,'' or ''defective rod?''

When a rod snaps or a reel jams on a running fish, the evidence speaks for itself. But when a line pops how do you really know what went wrong? Wouldn't it be great if there was such a thing as instant replay so you could analyze the failure? To do it right would require going underwater with cameras and strain gauges. Why? Because most line breaks occur in the last five feet closest to the hook.

Surprisingly, most line failure occurs within the last one inch—the deadly knot tying zone. Isn't it strange that a fisherman might have 150+ yards of line on his reel and yet all his problems seem to take place in the last inch? To minimize the effect of line failure, you must first analyze the cause. And you'd be amazed at some of the incredible things fishermen do in that last inch to help set the stage for disaster.

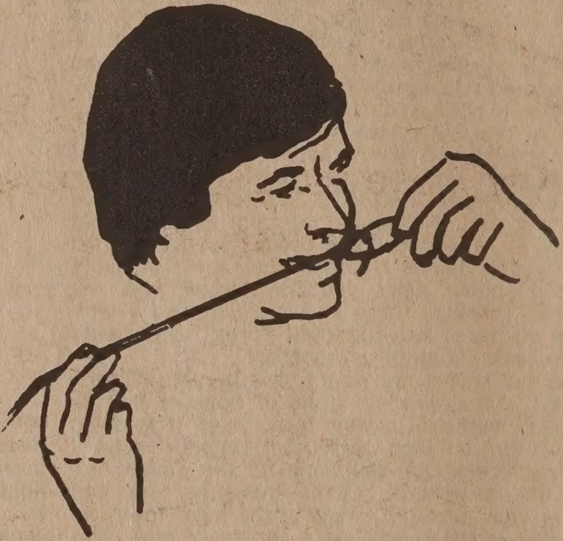
The Trilene® Fishing Research Team have been studying these cause/effect problems for years, both above water and underwater.

Separate the more obvious causes (e.g., old line, improperly set drag, wrong brand, or cheap line). What you have left is a smorgasbord of fishing problems directly tied in (Oops! No pun intended.) to the fishing knot and the angler's knot tying skills.

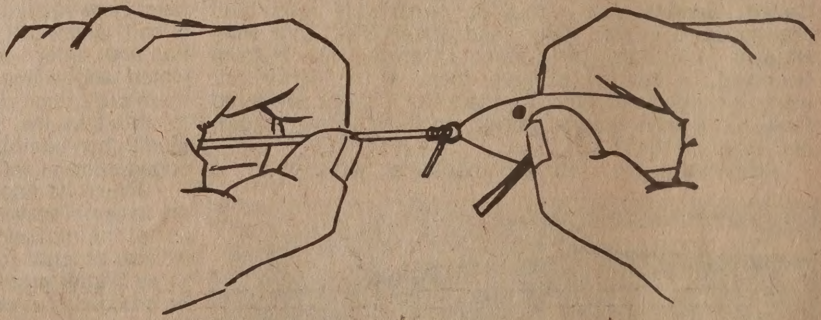
Here's a rundown of the causes and cures:

Wrong Knot: Nylon monos are vulnerable to certain ''cutting'' knots. DON'T use an overhand knot in mono. Learn to tie a strong knot like the TRILENE® knot.

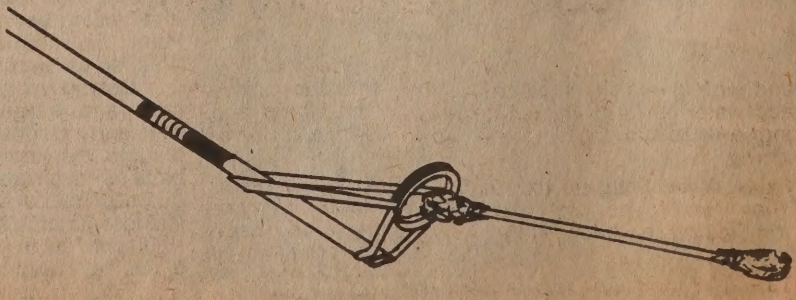
Heat: Nylon is weakened by heat. DON'T attempt to melt the clipped



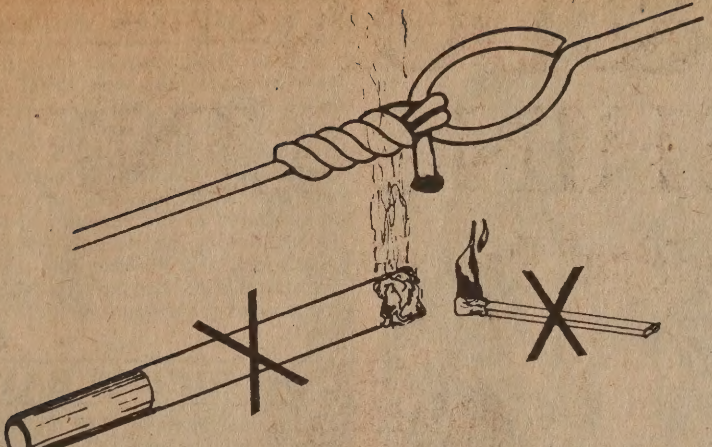
DO wet knot and draw down slowly



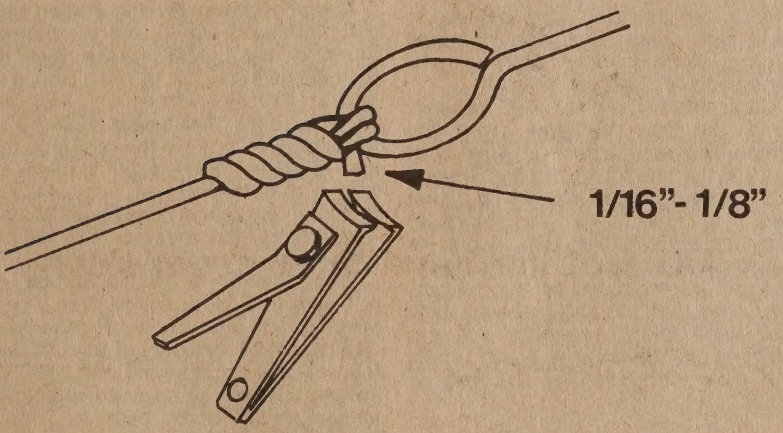
DO inspect the knot before trimming



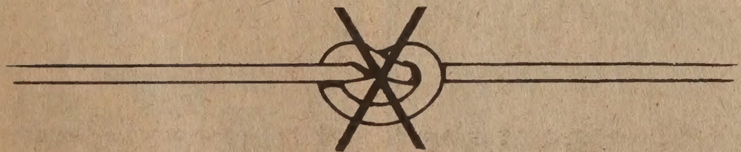
DO check guides or lure eyelets for burrs



DON'T use matches or cigarettes to fuse ends



DON'T trim too close



DON'T use cutting knots

end with a match or cigarette. DO add water to lubricate before drawing a knot up tight. Draw down slowly.

Faulty Trim: Snug up the knot first. Then trim off the loose end. DON'T trim too close. Allow 1/16'' - 1/8'' tag.

Test & Inspect: Visually inspect the knot for fouled loops. DO apply line pressure to avoid slips and pull-outs.

Nicked Line: DO check your line for nicks before re-tying. DO test your rod tiptop and first stripper guide with a cotton swab for burrs.

If it seems to you that you're bringing home more excuses than happy memories, maybe now's the time to inspect your tackle and improve knot tying skills.

It's true. Fishing is a learning experience. So how come some of the most experienced, unlucky fishermen we both know never seem to learn!

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MONTAUK
★ BEST BET ★
COD

Capt. Richie Rade of the **Marline Fleet** reports that fishing has been good for the last 2 weeks both locally and at Block Island with a lot of cod and a showing of pollack being swung over the rails by happy customers, mainly on bait.

Capt. Phil Lewis's charterboat **Adios** will be in the water by the time you read this report and this weekend is still open for the catch of your choice. See ad for phone number if interested.

A 46 lb. cod was taken by Laurelton angler Buddy Miles aboard Capt. Wayne King's charterboat **King Wayne**.

Capt. Bud Dorman of the **Viking Skipper II** said that on Friday most anglers went home with a full bag of cod and pollack. Saturday we had many hangers also. Saturday's pool winner was Bill Johnson from Patchogue hoisted a 43 lb. cod plus six others for a total weight of 133 lbs. However, it was Howard Crockett of Bethlehem Pa. who boated 19 cod for a total of 298 lbs. Capt. Bud said without any exaggeration his customers carried bag after bag after bag of cod (mostly) and pollack to their cars. Clam bait and diamond jigging worked well. Fishing was done south of Cartwright.

Capt John DeMaio just brought down the new **Vivienne** from the Maine shipyard where it was built this past winter. The maiden voyage was made on Saturday and John said you couldn't ask for things to go better on the first trip. Score for the day was 112 cod to 50 lbs. taken in local waters close to the harbor. John said that the fish were so thick they were taking anything you put down—bait, diamond jigs and tubes, and everyone stopped fishing at 10:30.

This huge 65 lb. cod was taken by Frank Domzalski, mate aboard the "Marlin V." The big fish was taken on the CIA grounds.

Captain John DeMaio on his maiden voyage of the 1980 season, aboard the new "Vivienne" hit the jackpot with this outstanding catch of 112 cod up to 50 lbs., for Marty, Sal, Emil and Jimmy.

SOUTH FORK
★ BEST BET ★
FLOUNDER

SHINNECOCK

Tom at **Speck's Bait and Tackle** reported that his weekend rentals found generally fair fishing in Peconic Bay. He described the flounder action in both the Peconics and Shinnecock as fairly consistent. A trio of anglers who journeyed east to Three Mile Harbor returned with 29 flatties from 1-3 lbs. which they took on mussel bait and chum. A catch of 75 big flounder was made by Bob Alese and Steve Cooper in the same Three Mile Harbor channel. The pair used sands, bloods and mussel chum. Tom had an encouraging report of a few weakfish taken by gillnetters in the area this past week.

HAMPTON BAYS

Captain Fred reported from **Corr's Mariners Cove** that their rental boats fished the Heady Creek area over the weekend and returned with average catches of 40-50 good sized flounder. Most were in the 1-1¼ lb. class. Fred said that while the best action was concentrated at this location, there is decent fishing scattered throughout Shinnecock and Peconic Bay. Worms and mussels as bait and mussels for chum have been accounting for the best scores.

MORICHES BAY

From **East Moriches Bait and Tackle** Bill reported that Donna Kijowski, Roger Royalty and Ray Hoffman fished the buoy 43 area with worms and mussel chum and returned with 48 keeper flounder. They had their best action on incoming water. Bill noted that most boats have been averaging 40-50 keepers in the buoys 42-44 areas. Incoming tide has been the most productive.

Al from **Highway Fishing Station** said that Anthony Favorito and his brother Alfred of North Massapequa took 40 flounder up to 2½ lbs. in just a couple of hours Saturday afternoon. Also on Saturday, a trio of nameless anglers who were the first to leave the dock and the last to return, totaled 170 flatties on worms and mussels at buoy 44. On Sunday, John Zengel fished buoy 32 also with worms and mussels and single-handedly put away 79 nice flounder.

From **Skidmore's Fishing Station** we got word that Steve Milisauskas, Steve Melchick and Pat Ackerly, all of Sullivan County, fished northeast of buoy 42 over the weekend and returned with over 100 keeper flounder using worms and heavy mussel chum. Going back to Friday, Tom Covitz, John Bearuese, Jim Meehan, Hank Kurz and Stan Bigora, all members of the Bowl-A-Way Masterbaiters fished 1½ hours of

Buddy Miles hefts the 46 lb. cod he caught recently aboard the charter boat 'King Wayne' at Montauk.

CAUGHT
AT
SKIDMORE'S
516-878-0572

Mike and George Speros and Joe Berecz with 90 flounder taken at buoy 44 on bloodworms and mussel chum. Photo courtesy of Skidmore's Fishing Station.

incoming water northeast of buoy 42 and took 60 nice flatties. Jim said that fishing has been off slightly due to the best tide which has been incoming, having been very early and very late. He looks for a very good weekend as high water will be in the middle of the day.

Chet of **B&B Tackle** reported very good flounder action in the vicinity of buoys 44 and 47 and also at Forge River. Best scores are being made by anglers fishing the edges of the holes. Both blood and sand worms have been equally effective with chumming important for those looking to score heavily. Also Chet noted that "corn rigs" help improve catches. Of the local freshwater fishing, Chet knew of a few holdover rainbow trout being taken out of Kahlers Pond on worms and small spinners.

Silly Lilly Fishing Station reports the flounder action getting hotter every day and things have been very good this past week right in front of the Coast Guard Station. Marty Leroy and two pals all of College Point fished Hart's Cove behind the sandbar and filled a 5 gallon bucket. Most fish are fillet size with chum recommended, incoming best. Most are 1 to 1½ lb. fish and they are hitting worms and both yellow and red dyed clam.

Cheryl of **Westhampton Marine Supply** called to report a noteworthy catch made by a pair of 12 yr. olds in the Quogue Canal. Howie Bloomgarden and Adam Kansler took 54 flounder from the second bridge on bloodworms. Cheryl added that boatmen continued to do well in the canal and in the bay.

HAMPTON BAYS

The **Capt. Clark** called to report some good catches of large flounder in the Robin's Island and South Race areas for the last part of this week. On Thursday Marine Master Sgt. Andy Peda bagged 18 big flounder and won the boat pool with a 2¾ lb. flattie, all the action at Jamesport. Fishing is hot and cold depending upon conditions. Both mussels and worms are working equally well on both tides.

GREAT SOUTH BAY
★ BEST BET ★
FLOUNDER

MASTIC BEACH

From **Stiriz' Fishing Station**, Captain Bill called Saturday's flounder fishing in the area slow, but said that on Sunday the fishing improved considerably with most boats averaging 35-40 nice flounder apiece. Best areas were buoy 17 and also buoys 9 and 10. Most of the fish taken ranged from 3/4 on up to 2½ lbs. Both bloodworms and sand worms are effective with mussel chum a big asset. Best action has been on flood tide.

WEST SAYVILLE

South Bay Fishing Station reported that on Sunday, Tim Carberry and Leo Kravitz returned to the station with 83 flounder and 11 eels from the Cherry Grove area. They used worm bait and chummed heavily with mussels. Some of the fish in their catch were in the 2 lb. range. Vinnie called the fishing in the

Bill Vargas and Tim Mirando with an outstanding catch of 98 flounder from 3/4 to 2 lbs. caught at buoy 44. The pair used sand worms and chummed heavily with mussels. Photo courtesy of L&M Marine.

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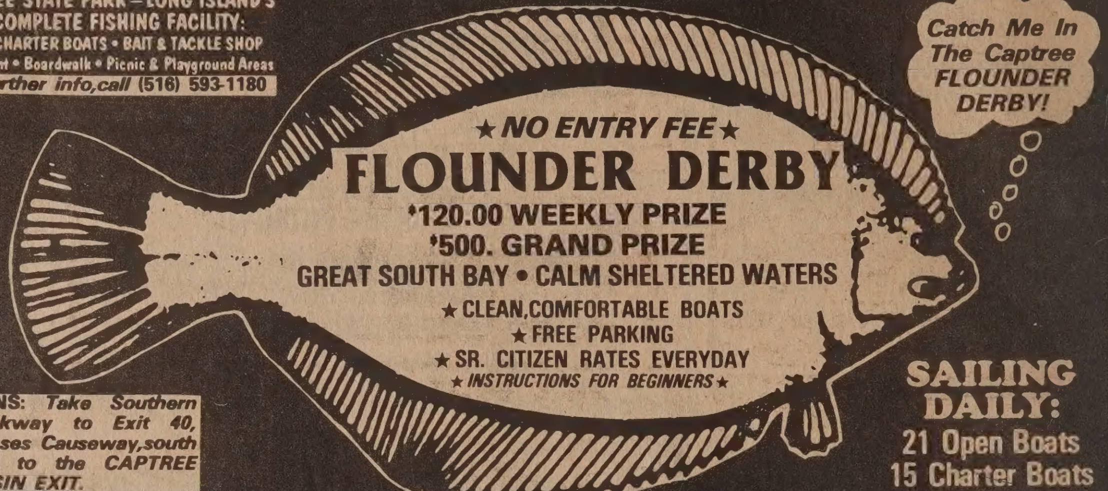
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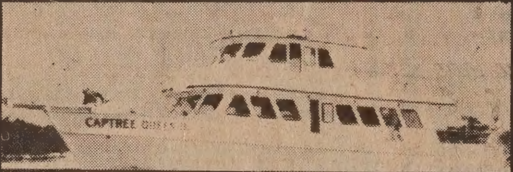

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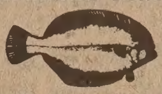

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SUNRISE & SUNSET MACKS, WEAKS, BLUES COMING...BEAUTIFUL
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Exit 39N on L.I.E. (Glen Cove Rd.) to end. Left turn & then right turn at 2nd lite onto Shore Rd.

Mr. and Mrs. Robert Franklin and their children Cindy and Bobby display part of the catch of 74 flounder made south of buoy 45 on red-dyed clams and bloodworms. Photo courtesy of Seatuck Cove Fishing Station.

Barrett Beach, Cherry Grove, and Heckscher Park area "steady." Most of the fish have been running anywhere from 3/4 to 2 lbs. Tom Kent and Bill Deveriaux took 30 flounder and 6 eels in the Heckscher area on Sunday. Best bet for those interested in eels is the buoy 28-29 area. Vinnie was enthused about reports that netters took some tiderunner weaks in the bay Saturday PM. It won't be long now!

SAYVILLE

Young's Fishing Station called to say that the flounder fihsing is excellent and is spread out throughout the bay. Best has been Heckscher Park followed closely by areas off Pines, Cherry Grove and Ocean Beach. Bill Schovanec and Dick Emanovsky on Friday had 40 keeper flounders fishing off Heckscher with clam and worm. Saturday saw Curt, Chris and Scott Hatton and pal Mike Kransch of Ronkonkoma boat 25 flounders and an eel fishing the same area with corn chum, clam and worm on an incoming tide.

OAKDALE

Dave reported from **J&R Sport Center** that some customers had catches ranging from 30-50 flounder in the Heckscher Park grounds. Fish being taken are all nice size, with quite a few up to 2 lbs. included in the catches. Sand worms, dyed clams and mussels are all accounting for the flatties, with mussel chum being a definite plus. Dave added that a few trout are being taken in Mill Pond before dark and Bubbles Falls has been producing an occasional sea run.

CAPTREE

Captain George Tweedy of the open boat **Captain Scotty** reported that while Saturday's fishing was okay, Sunday's fishing was a pretty tough pick unless one ran quite a ways east. During the week there was some good action in both east and west channels and also in the vicinity of buoy 4. On some days, fares averaged 15-20 fish, with the high hook usually going home with 30-40 nice flounder. Fish are all good sized, averaging 3/4 to 1½ lbs. Both worms and clams have been equally effective.

Captain Rod Westerlind of the open boat **Captain Rod**, credited Captain Charlie Kennedy of the **Captain Joseph** with finding a body of nice flounder east of CHerry Grove along the Blue Point line. This fishing was a noticeable improvement over action during the week and resulted in good scores on both Saturday and Sunday. Fish are all nice sized and being taken on worms and clams.

Capt. Gordon Roman of the **Captree Queen II** tells us that floundering was slow during most of the week but Sunday saw a marked increase fishing off Cherry Grove and Fire Island Pines on the flats and also off Lone Hill. Sunday's 30 customers had roughly 250 keepers nearly all in the 1 lb. class taken on a running tide. Clam, mussel and worm baits all did the trick with worm and mussel doing best.

The weekly winner of the **Captree Flounder Derby** was Michael Nicholson of Glendale with a 2 lb. 5 oz. flounder taken on April 7th on the Reward.

Capt. Charlie Kennedy of the **Capt. Joseph** called to say that his final drop on Friday must have been on a huge pod of flounder and with the help of a bushel of crushed mussels for chum, his 45 fares pulled up a little over 400 keeper flounder. Ronnie and Joseph ages 11 and 9 had 26 keepers between them. Robbin Von Heggel age 13 of Islip Terrace had 13 keepers. Catches average 12 to 20 fish a man and the ebb tide was best on mussels, clams and worms. Sunday's catch for 21 people was 152 flounder and Saturday's catch was even better. Charlie was fishing the Sayville area. Fish averaged ½ to 1¼ lbs. with 2

CAUGHT AT
YOUNGS
567-9765

This catch of 25 flounder and one eel was made by Mike Krausch and Curt and Chris Hatton on worms and clams at Heckscher Park. The trio left from Young's Fishing Station in Sayville.

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★ SPECIALIZING IN GARDINERS BAY SNOWSHOE FLOUNDER ★
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pounders grabbing pool money.

The **Blue Albatross II**, has arrived at his berth at Captree. This boat was formally the Tridon II which sailed from Montauk. The boat is accepting large charters up to 49 passengers. See ad for details.

Charter boat **Lady Ann** tells of the weekend's charters resulting in catches of approximately 150 keepers per day. The boat worked the area between Cherry Grove and Lone Hill. These were mostly pound size fish taken on worm and clam on an ebbing tide.

The **Captree Fleet** will be holding it's first annual blessing of the Fleet on Sunday, April 27th at Captree State Park. The Fleet will sail that day on their regular morning trips and be blessed on their return to Captree at the Boat Basin at approximately 2:30 p.m. There will be a complete range of free family activities and fishing related exhibits and drawings. All of the boats of the Fleet will be open for public inspection afterwards. NBC weatherman Doctor Frank Field will be the guest speaker and therefore sunny weather is anticipated.

Captain Bob Patafio of the charter boat **Yankee III** opened the season this weekend with a party from the Tally-Ho Fishing Club on Saturday, headed by Al Schmansky. The group picked away at flounder in the 3/4 to 1½ lb. range. On Sunday, a group headed by Ed Schmidt enjoyed very good fishing with the high hook accounting for 21 good sized flounder. Fishing on Sunday was done east in the bay between Cherry Grove and Bayport.

BAY SHORE

Capt. Neil of the **Casey Lee** tells of fair flounder fishing this past week and weekend. Saturday's catch was over 200 flatties in the 1 lb. class, working between Cherry Grove and Lone Hill. Bill Olsen of Bay Shore was high hook with 14 fish. Worm, clam and red dyed clam all worked with best on an ebbing tide.

Carl Miller of **Smokey's Bait and Tackle** said that flounder fishing improved towards the end of the week and over the weekend. Best fishing has

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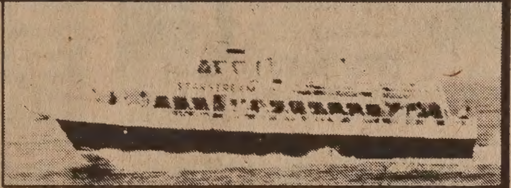

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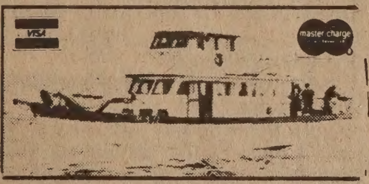
FLOUNDERS★7A.M. DAILY



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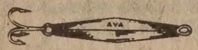

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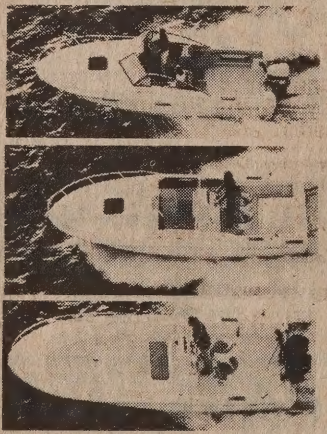

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SMOKEY'S
BAIT
TACKLE

Jeffery Miller, age 4, Richard Miller, age 7, and Stacy Miller, age 11, show off a fine catch of 30 flounder up to 1 lb. 2 oz. made in Great South Bay aboard the boat Trouble Maker. Photo courtesy of Smokey's Bait and Tackle.

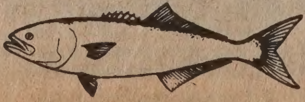
been in the vicinity of buoy 2 and Dickerson's channel. Worms, clams, and mussels have all been effective baits and mussel or clam chum is essential for making a good score. A boat flying the Burge of the Surfside 3 Tuna Club fished the buoy 2 area on Sunday. The boat, Serena II, managed 35 nice flounder.

BABYLON

Word from the **Babylon Fishing Station** was that the flatfishing has been picky but some anglers still managed t to do very well. As an example, Bill described a catch of 30 flounder up to 2½ lbs. made on the Babylon clam flats Saturday by Mike Wichart. Mike took his fish on worm bait and mussel chum.

Ski of **Augie's Bait and Tackle** reported best action in recent days was in the AM during incoming tide. Average catch is 20-30 fish per boat, with most of the best scores coming from the buoy 2 area. Worm bait and mussel chum, along with churning the bottom are vital to making good catches. Sunday morning, Dr. Dick Boehner and Walter Kuszeliewicz fished buoy 2 and wound up with 27 good fish.

Capt. Ron of the charterboat **Seabird** had the Rainbow Hunting and Fishing Club of Queens out on Saturday and they started a good pick going early in the day starting at buoy 11 and working along the flats. Ron says he has some choice dates open so give him a call.



SOUTH SHORE BAYS
★ BEST BET ★
FLOUNDER

AMITYVILLE

George Combs told us from his Tackle Shop of the same name that good flounder fishing can be found at West Island, Windy Hook and Ft. Neck Point. Best fishing has been two hours on either side of low water. Sand worms and clam or mussel chum has been most productive. While most catches averaged 15-25 fish, George described a score made by Jeff White fishing in the vicinity of West Island three days last week, using worms and mussel chum, Jeff averaged 60 fish per day for each of the three days he fished.

SEAFORD

Captain Eddy's Fishing Station reported most boats have been returning with from 20 to 30 fish apiece. Richie Madison and his friend Pete accounted for 35 flatties up to 1¾ lbs. while John Ryan and his fiance managed a half bucket of good sized fish. They used worms and chummed with clams and mussels. Chum is abolutely necessary for good action.

Bob's Fishing Station reported that Harold Brunks fished Massapequa Cove with worms and mussel chum and returned with 35 nice flounder. On Sunday, a customer by the name of Wally totaled nearly 100 flatties also fishing the Massapequa Cove. Despite the good flounder fishing Bob was more concerned with the loss of one of the skiff's rental motors Sunday morning. If anyone is approached by someone selling a 1979 7½ h.p. Honda, serial no. 1100237, please contact Bob's Fishing Station or the police.

John from **Pop's Fishing Station** said that catches vary depending on the anglers. Some do very well; others not so well. A party of five anglers headed by Jose Santiago of New York City returned with 90 good fish from Squaw Island. Gram and Gramps Elberfeld accounted for 85 flounder at buoys 13 and 14. They used worms and chummed heavily with mussels. Their grandchildren, the Longerellos, who could manage only 45 flounder seem to underscore the old saying that the older you get, the better you get. Fred Becker headed a trio who fished Massapequa Point and took 72 flounder.

BALDWIN

Andy of the **Arthur Street Fishng Station** said that flounder fishing in Baldwin Bay remains steady. Best score of the weekend was 40 fish up to 2 lbs. taken Sunday afternoon on worms and mussel chum.

WEST END SOUTH SHORE

★ BEST BET ★

FLOUNDER

FREEPORT

Capt. Sy Karlin of the **Bluefin Fleet** asked us to let you know that his new boat arrived at Woodcleft Canal on Friday and she is now ready to begin a super first season of chartering, joining its sistership the **Bluefin II** which is tied up right alongside.

Capt. Richie of the **Starstream II** is now switching over to mackerel daily as word of big Boston mackerel moving up the Jersey coast filters in. The boat is sailing 6:30 a.m.

Capt. Mike Danon of the **Capt. Lou III** sailed with good crowds and week and weekend and reports the flounder catches were good to very good. Tuesday saw Tony Pagliaro of Merrick bagged 52 flounders up to 1½ lbs. Mike Gross of Bellrose had 38 flounder up to 2 lbs. Low man was 20 keepers. On Wednesday they fished only half a day in the storm with 6 people and were back at the dock by noon but still Jerry Cohen of Forest Hills managed 36 keeper flounder up to 1½ lbs. Thursday was very good again. Friday Jerry returned and picked 50 keepers. Mike Fayer of Great Neck boated 35. Jack Berman had 34 flounder. Catches were on worms, clams and mussels and there was plenty of action. Mike worked the back bays and fish hit on both tides. Action was a little slower on the weekend due to the extremely strong tides but there was still action in the morning hours.

The **Capt. Hall** reports good flounder catches on Sunday's trip with one customer and his son picking 31 flounder between them with the son taking the pool with a 2½ pounder. This was Tom Schroeder and Dan of Bayside. Six people were in contention for the day's pool, that how many big fish were caught. There were many fish over 2 lbs. Catches ranged anywhere from 9 to 16 fish a man and the Capt. worked Massapequa Cove, Merrick and Squaw Island.

Capt. Jim Lanzaretta of the charterboat **Nite Owl II** called to let us know he and the boat are back from Florida and ready to sail. The boat features large charters and Jim has a reputation as a real sharpie of wreck fishing.

The **Capt. Al** has been working favorite flounder ranges at Squaw Island most of this past week and weekend with fish running ¾ to 1¼ lbs.

Lou Stalker of the **Charvin Fishing Station** reported that on Friday a pair of New York Harbor pilots fished Neds Creek and returned with 99 nice fat flounder. Wink Carmen, Jr. and Ronnie Cannon used clams and worms as well as mussel chum to make their haul. Squaw Island has been producing consistently good catches although the weekend saw better fishing on Sunday than on Saturday. Lou had news of a few cod taken south of Jones Inlet. On Saturday, Alan Radi, Mac Horowitz and Vic Sandkuhl ran 140 degrees to 120' of water to take three steakers up to 46½ lbs. They fished aboard Alan's 23' skiff Yago. Jim Altschul aboard his 23 footer Rough Rider took 6 cod up to 44 lbs. 150 degrees out of Jones in 120' of water. Assisting Jim was Mike Meyers. Both men are members of the Freeport Tuna Club. A sign of the changing season was a catch of two boxes of bunker made by a local gillnetter off of Lido last week.

POINT LOOKOUT

Capt. Dennis of the **Marie III** reports that his charter Saturday for the 118th Precindt of Queens found flounder fishing a little on the slow side. Sunday's charter for the Double T Fishing Club of Elmont had over 150 keeper flounders and also threwback anything ¾ lb. and under. Artie Herrshaft took the pool with a 1½ pounder on the club scale. Second place went to Steve Karney with a 1¼ pounder. Best action was at Reynold's Channel buoys 17 and 19, and Garret Lead. Catches were best in the morning on the ebb with worm and mussel bait. On Friday, Dennis and two friends fishing in their small boat worked Cinder Creek and in 2 hours with fresh mussels picked 50 flounder to 2 lbs. on the last two hours of the flood.

Ed's Fishing Station called to say that Friday Joe Prevratil of Long Island City and Peter Licata of Middle Village had a 45 and 25 lb. cod on their own boat fishing in 90' of water due south of Jones Inlet, on clam bait. The rental skiffs had a decent time with flounder. Dennis Hearns of Maspeth and Al and Helen Marks had 60 good flounder working the flats across from the station on the top 3 hours of the ebb on mussel and worm. Steve Trantel of Massapequa, age 14 and 14 yr. old friend John Pietronegro of Ozone Park fishing with Al and Lou ended up with 2 pails full of flatties fishing buoys 16 and 18 in Reynolds Channel. Catches were excellent Friday between buoys 16 and 20 in the flats.

Tom from **Scotty's Fishing Station** said that after a slow week, due again to wind and rain, the flatfishing improved considerably over the weekend. He figured boats averaged 20-25 fish apiece and added that mussel chum is a big plus. Bloodworms continue to be the most effective bait in the area. Most fish run 3/4 to 1 lb. with buoy 19 in Reynolds Channel and the "drain" in Middle Bay producing best.

ISLAND PARK

The **Commodore** reports fair flounder action all week long. They sailed Tuesday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday and catches averaged 15 keepers a man. Sunday's pool fish ran 2 lb. 4 oz. John Trost of Brooklyn had 30 keepers. Fares pick a way all day using worms, mussel and clam bait. Capt. Clem is working the back bays and he says the water is warming and fish are moving into the main channels now especially Reynolds at buoys 16 and 20, outgoing tide best. Keepers are running from ½ to 1 lb.

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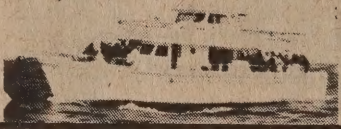
★SHEEPSHEAD BAY★



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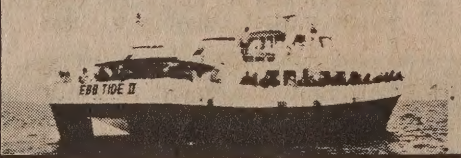
★CITY ISLAND★



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Charlie of **Beckmann's Tackle Shop** said that the flounder fishing has been good, with most of the better fishing concentrated in Reynolds Channel, Shaffers Creek and Garretts Lead. Worms, mussels, clams have all been effective baits and Charlie emphasized that mussel chum is an absolute must to score well. Casters continue to pick away at the flatties from the Magnolia Pier.

LONG BEACH

Frank from **Long Beach Sports Marina** called it a very good weekend and reported that "everyone caught fish." Duck Point seemed to provide the best action. As an example, three anglers accounted for over 100 fish on worms and mussel chum at this location. The Beluga whale was still entertaining channel-goers up until Saturday.

ATLANTIC BEACH

Sy Rubin of **Henning's Fishing Station** called the flounders nice and thick and said that some boats totaled upwards of 50-60 fish apiece. Sy emphasized the need to chum and suggested both worms and mussels as bait. Best action at Duck POINT AND THE Cedarhurst Yacht Club with bigger fish being taken at Duck Point. Sy said that he's heard of mackerel south of Atlantic City and a few big cod south of Fire Island Inlet.

JAMAICA BAY

John at **Cross Bay Bait and Tackle** was enthused about the flatfishing at the north and south channel bridges and the Long Beach channel drive. The fish are all nice sized and are being taken on worms and mussels. Robert Ledee had 7 flounder up to 1¾ lbs. from the North Channel bridge on Saturday. He used mussels.

SHEEPSHEAD BAY

The **Elise K III** reports good flounder catches Saturday and Sunday. Saturday the boat fished annandale and Sunday the boat worked just off the Sheepshead Bay jetty with high hook 20 fish both days. Bigger fish were caught Sunday, up to 2½ lbs. Capt. Tom says the catches are picking up and he is sailing every day at 7:00 a.m. All tides are producing with sandworms, mussels and clam as hook bait.

Pilot II had a flounder slaughter Saturday at the Navesink in Jersey. Sunday was good but not as good. During the week one fare had 46 keepers out of 70 fish caught, keepers in the 1 to 1½ lbs. range. Tom says that overall, the fishing has been very good.

STATEN ISLAND

Lenny of **Santos Sport Shop** called the flounder fishing excellent and described it as the best season in a number of years. He named the Stapleton Piers 17 and 18 and the shore front from Great Kills Park to Tottenville as all producing good flounder fishing. Worms continue to be the best bait and most of the fish have been running from a half up to 1¼ lbs. Some good news for surfcasters was the arrival of some bass ranging from shorts on up to 5 lbs. at Gateway National Park. Whole worms have been accounting for catches ranging from 1-6 school bass per man.

Michael, Matthew and Kevin Prinz of Lake Ronkonkoma show off a nice catch of flounder from 1 to 2½ lbs. taken off of Jessup's aboard the open boat "Wilhelric."

PECONICS & GARDINERS

★ BEST BET ★

FLOUNDER

GREENPORT

A.P. White Bait Shop tells us that the **Peconic Star** and the various small charterboats at Greenport are bagging up on flounder on bloodworms, mussel and clam baits working Gardiners Bay and from the area east of the breakwater on. Artie says these fish are running up to 1¾ lbs.

The **Peconic Star** called to tell us that he is having fantastic flounder catches this past Friday, Saturday and Sunday, for what is the best flounder fishing in the last 3 years. John Cosgrove and 10 yr. old daughter Laurie, had 70 plus fish Friday. They are from Elmhurst. Sunday saw Peter Dzakonski high hook with 65 flounders. The boat is fishing around the breakwater, Bug Light, and East Marion with no spot being more than 15 minutes from the dock. All action is east of the breakwater.

SOUTHOLD

Port of Egypt Fishing Station tells us that Sunday saw excellent flounder catches at Long Beach. Bob Armbruster of Elmhurst fishing with two buddies had 50 flounder on mussels. Also on Sunday Southold angler Lester Wells boated 34 keepers running from 1 lb. to 3 lb. 6 oz. fishing clam and worm baits on the west side of the Greenport breakwater. All the skiffs returned with decent to good flounder catches.

NEW SUFFOLK

Phil at **Capt. Marty's Fishing Station** tells us that South Race at Buoy 25 has been producing the greatest quantity of fish this past week, flounders from 1½ to 2 lbs. in general. Lots of boats were out on Saturday. Nassau Point is still producing with fewer but larger flounder. Gasper Terry and Son boated 35 good keepers fishing with mussels at South Race and Nassau Point. Phil says the ebb tide is the best and you must chum.

NOYAC

Helen at **Noyac Marina** tells of fantastic flounder fishing being done this past weekend mainly between Jessups' tip and the sandbar, the Monastery and off Satly Dog for large flounder up to 2 lbs. Helen says the fish are fattening up every day and all skiffs returned with solid catches. Mussel and clam are working best though worms are working also. An ebbing tide is putting the most fish in the box.

Dom Gugliotta, Frank Korker, George Walker and Bill Gugliotta, all of New Jersey, with 131 flounder from 1-2 lbs. taken at Mashomack Point on mussels and worms. Photo courtesy of Port of Egypt Fishing Station.

SAG HARBOR

Chris from **Bayview Marine & Tackle** reports that up until Saturday Gibson's Buoy 11 and between Buoy 14 and North Haven were good spots with Saturday it changed and the best fishing was at Cedar Pt. and outside Buoy 4 in Gardiners Bay. John Schneider and friends from Mineola had 40 to 50 flounders Saturday at Cedar Pt. Mr. Kessler fished Saturday outside Buoy 4 drifting and took 40 up to 1¾ lbs. Plenty of mussel chum and flood tides are best.

Capt. Artie Latch of the **Wilhelric** tells us that Tuesday's flounder fishing was excellent at South Ferry and at Meshamok, flatties going up to 2½ lbs. with almost no midgets. Three young boys had slightly over 100 keepers between them, all on mussels. On Saturday the big fish took a breather. Best areas are around the Greenport jetty on the ebb, plenty of flounder but about 80 pecent are throwbacks. On Sunday the boat fished the Bush at Cedar Point and it picked flounder up to 3 lbs. Sig Anderson of Westbury had 2 topped off 5 gallon buckets all by himself.

EAST HAMPTON

Three Mile Harbor Fishing Station in East Hampton reports that Friday Doc. Saren along with Bob and Mark Scher had over 300 flounder ranging from ¾ to 2 lbs. in the harbor using mussels and skimmers for bait and lots of chum. One boat fished on the outside down toward Napeague. George Cardell, Bob Westing, and

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Over 100 flounder was the score for Steve Milisauskas, Steve Melchick and Pete Ackerly. The trio fished buoy 42 with bloodworms, dyed clams and mussels. They also chummed heavily with clams and mussels. The biggest fish was 2⅓ lbs. and in addition they returned over 50 smaller flounder. Photo courtesy of Skidmore's Fishing Station.

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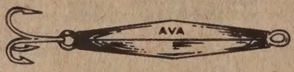

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John G. had 30 fish ranging from 2 to 3 lbs. using mussels for bait and for chum.

AQUEBOGUE

Warren's Bait & Tackle tells us that Nassau Point and the area off of the Greenport Oyster Factory is now producing good sized flounder from 1 to 2 lbs. on mussel and worms on both tides. The Sound is also starting to yield flatties. Warren has also heard of two blackfish caught which is a harbinger of Spring.

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ROCKY POINT

Stan at **Rocky Point Fishing Station** reports good flounder catches are being made off the beaches at Broadway Beach, Shoreham and Wading River. Stan was out with a couple of pals on Sunday fishing just southeast of Buoy 11 and had best results up to the top of the tide. They had 26 good keepers ranging from 1½ to 2 lbs. fishing in 25' of water with very heavy chumming. Conscience Bay is producing postage stamp size fish. Quality size fish are in the Sound but Stan emphasized heavy chumming.

MT. SINAI HBR.

Ralph's Fishing Station tells of plenty of flounder both in and out of the harbor with the outside producing fish up to 2 lbs. on worm, mussel and clam, fish running from ¾ lb. on up. Outgoing tide has been best. Fair size fish are on the inside up to 1¼ lb. and Ralph has heard of some weakfish taken in the pound nets around Orient.

PORT JEFFERSON

Caraftis Fishing Station tells of flounder just outside at Buoy 11, at Flax Pond and Crane's Neck. These are big fish from 1 to 2 lbs. average with an occasional larger specimen. These are sound fish and they are hitting sandworms and mussels on an incoming tide best and you must chum to catch.

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Some of the fares aboard the Peconic Star show off part of the catch that totalled over 700 flounder. Fifteen anglers accounted for the huge haul.

KINGS PARK

Bob at **OK Bait and Tackle** called to tell us that Danny Davis and Howard Baker returned with 25 flounder from 1 lb. to 2½ lbs. over the weekend. The pair fished inside the river with worms and mussel bait and also used a "chum log." They returned all fish under 1 lb. On Sunday, Sal and Sophie Bruno found 30 nice fish outside along Callahan's. They used sand worms.

NORTHPORT

Bowman's Sporting Goods tells of flounder in the Sound now of decent size off Eaton's, just off the Morgan Estate in 25' of water. Fish are mostly keepers in the 1½ to 2½ category. Heavy chumming is recommended. Smaller but more fish are in the harbor around Duck Island. The town dock is producing a lot of small fish but enough keepers to make it interesting. Some 5 lb. class stripers at Crab Meadow and the Power Plant with incoming water better on sandworms, small white bucktails or small split back Rebels. White perch are also in the warm water on worms.

HUNTINGTON

Charterboat **Eclipse** reports a fantastic flounder weekend. Saturday's trip for Doctor Eisenbud and group saw lots of keepers and lots of throw backs as well. Ken Mandell age 7 bagged up at a whole just outside Lloyd Harbor. Keepers ran from 1 to 1¼ lbs. On Sunday the boat returned with another group for a repeat at the same spot. Catches were on worms and mussel chum on both tides.

George Valentine at **Four Winds Bait & Tackle** says theres plenty of flounder to be caught from 1 to 1½ lbs. outside the harbors at Marshall Field, Diamond Point and Ashroken. Catches average 20 to 30 a man. Smaller fish in the ½ to ¾ lb. range are being taken in Northport Bay,

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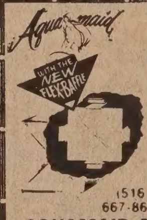

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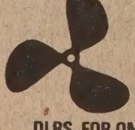

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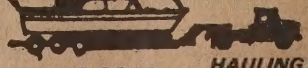

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Honeymans, Huntington Bay and at Duck Island. Sandworms are working best and tommy cod are mixed in on the outside. Flounders are hitting on both tides.

Captain Don of the open boat **Ever Ready** reported very good flounder fishing in recent days on the Sunday afternoon trip, Dolores Schmidt was high hook with 37 flounder taken in four hours. Pool fish was taken by an angler by the name of Artie that weighed in at 1½ lbs. On Saturday morning's trip, Wally Zapata was high hook with 24 fish, while Dave Spindell took the pool on the afternoon trip with a 1¼ lb. flounder.

GLEN COVE

John at **Glen Cove Sports** reports that Mike Lotito and Paul Wolf bagged 36 flounders of 1 to 1½ lbs. fishing sandworms off Dosoris Creek. Paul Traxilar boated 15 flounder from the bridge side of Dosoris Pond on sandworms. Mike Lotito the following day during the week returned for 48 more flounder from 1 to 1½ lbs. on worms and mussel chum between Dosoris Creek and Mattinicock Point. Frank Capers on Friday took 6 keepers and a half hour off the Prybil Beach Pier. Fourt yr. old Scott Del Ferro had 2 keepers off the town dock. Jim Peppard Jr. is presenting leading in the shop's flounder contest with a 1 lb. 8 oz. fish. All are invited to enter any or all of the 10 categories in the shop's

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22' MAKO 1975 135 h.p. Johnson, SST, Holsclaw galvanized tandem trailer; CB, VHF, depth recorder, compass, tach., temp. gauge, auto. bilge, washdown pump, dual batteries; CG equipment. Alarm. Excellent condition. $7500. 516-868-5526.

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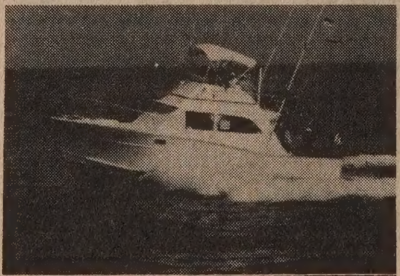

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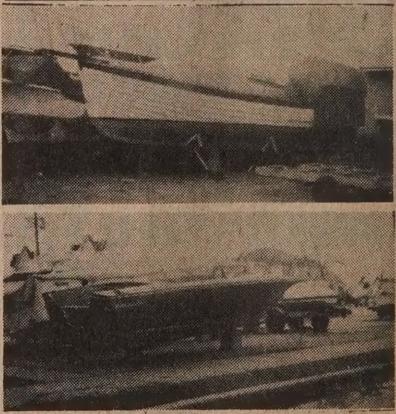

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LIFETIME CHUM POT. All PVC construction. No metals; 1½ and 2½ qt. sizes - $15 & $20. SEAHUNTER, 198 Woodbury Rd., Huntington, NY 11743.

FLOUNDER—Three hook rig. $.99 each; three for $2.50. Check or M.O.: SPENCER'S RIGS, 573 East 28th St., Bklyn, NY 11210.

TO INQUIRERS—The 2 inch SICO with a NEW 35 lb. test ring for your POLLACK is as GOOD for TROUT as for SNAPPER BLUES. The DEMO and the 4 inch SICO can be CHANGED into POPPERS or SWIMMERS. Just change the SINGLE hook BUCKTAIL and the FISHTAIL hook, so the point of the hook faces UP or DOWN. As a POPPER, reel in before it sinks; to BOTTOM TROLL the DEMO you MUST use a SINKER. (DEADLY). The VEENY and the 3 and 4 inch SICOs are as DEADLY on WALLEYES and BASS as on WEAKFISH. The SPUGS have a NEW TYPE of SURGI-TUBE with a BIGGER hook. (DEADLY) If an INJURED MINNOW ZIGZAGS and WOBBLES a GAME fish will GRAB it quick as an EASY MEAL. The ONLY lures with this ACTION are the MINNOE LURES.

CATCH MORE FISH! Patented two-hook rigs. GUARANTEED! Flounder, fluke, weakfish, striper. Six rigs - $5.50. Free brochure. Aqua-Clear, 314 Cherry Road, Atco, NJ 08004#19

FLOUNDER KILLER RIGS: Flounders are committing suicide on this famous 3-hook rig especially designed for the "meat fisherman." Special design and construction keeps tangles at a minimum. All hand-made; finest quality material. Three completely tied rigs for $3.50. Send check or M.O. to: P. Miller, 150 Babylon Tpke., Merrick, NY 11566.

FISHING KNOTS MANUAL. Proven best ties, clearly illustrated. End-loops, droppers, splices, etc., to land the "Big" ones. From trout to tuna. $3 REDLAC COMPANY, Box 357-L, Merrick, N.Y. 11566.

Bass, blues, bonitas, snappers. The ULTIMATE LURE, in lure fishing, made at home. Easy follow instructions. Send S.A.S.E. + $1.00 to: ULTIMATE LURE, P. O. Box 255, Greenpoint Station, Bklyn., NY 11222.

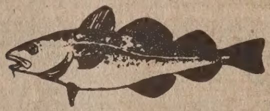
SPORT SHOPS: Looking for fresh lively worms? KING CRAWLER has them. Live delivery right to your door. 238-9508. Bob. 254-2459, Dave.

REAL ESTATE

Duck Key Condo - Fantastic Florida Keys fishing. Sleeps 4; AC; TV. Reasonable weekly or seasonal rates. 516-589-7005.

fishing contest.

The **Lady Lil II** tells of good flounder fishing this past week between Mattinicock Point and Lloyd's Neck. Catches are averaging 20 fish a man. The fish are running a little smaller now and there are also a lot of throwbacks. Pool fish usually run 1½ lbs. Both tides are producing on sandworm and clam bait.



NORTH SHORE WEST END

★ BEST BET ★ FLOUNDER

CITY ISLAND

Ebb Tide II fished Saturday and Sunday outside Eaton, Lloyds and Bayville and enjoyed good flounder catches of 15 to 50 keepers a man, fish averaging ¾ to 1 lb. on both tides, even through the slack.

Capt. Howie Berlin of the **Super Claire** called and asked us to express his apologies to his customers that travelled to City Island to sail with him only to find the boat not there yet. Howie says the hold up is due to a hassel between New York City and the Dock builders. He hopes to have the boat there by this weekend, but requests that you call him first to double check. See ad for phone number.

Capt. Dom Cerbone of the **Apache** reports flounder catches of 20 to 40 keepers a man. Fish are ranging from ½ to ¾ lb. with many in the 1 lb. class. Sandworms have been working best and catches have been consistent all week.

Jack's Bait & Tackle reports lots of flounder caught all during this past week and weekend in the ¾ to 1 lb. range on sandworms. Best has been Harts Island by the ferry slip and Rodman's Neck and all along that shoreline. The Orchard Beach jetties and Ft. Slocum have been producing on the last half of incoming and the first half of the ebb.

City Island Bait & Tackle says they are starting to get some school bass in Turtle Cove and the Hart's Island area on trolled sandworms. Flounders at the school pier and Orchard Beach Lagoon and Eastchester Creek on sandworms and mussel chum.

NEW BOOKS

DAIWA FISHING ANNUAL CONTAINS UNIQUE TACKLE SELECTOR

Daiwa's 1980 Fishing Annual, which went on newsstand sale on March 15, contains a special 16-page center section that matches all of Daiwa's 88 models of reels and 341 models of rods to specific kinds of fishing.

This unique matching tackle selector contains recommendations on how to choose exactly the right Daiwa rod and reel for the seven most popular kinds of fishing done in North American fresh and salt water.

The section titles are: Freshwater Bass and Striper Fishing; Freshwater Trout, Panfish and Walleye Fishing; Muskellunge & Northern Pike Fishing; Steelhead & Salmon Fishing; Light Saltwater, Surf, Inshore and Big Game Fishing; Medium Saltwater Casting, Jigging & Trolling; and, Heavy Saltwater Jigging, Drop-lining and Trolling. Special tackle for saltwater live bait casting is also highlighted.

The balance of the 113-page Annual contains a broad spectrum of well-written and informative articles by well-known outdoor writers, including Jerry Gibbs, Vlad Evanoff, Pete Barrett, Tom Opre, Jack Fallon, and Babe Winkleman.

Newsstand price for the Daiwa Annual is $2.25 in the U.S., and $2.75 in Canada.

GUIDE TO FISHING WESTCHESTER & PUTNAM

Fishermen who live in or near the New York/New Jersey Metropolitan Area need not travel far or wide to enjoy the clean, productive angling waters described by Robert R. Craven in "Guide to Fishing Westchester and Putnam Counties," just published by Outdoor Publications, Ithaca, N.Y.

The new 94-page book features the important streams, ponds, lakes, and reservoirs in the Westchester/Putnam region known as "Watershed Country." Many of these swift and sparkling waterways serve as drinking supplies for New York City and surrounding communities. Sweet and pure, they teem with trout, bass, pickerel, and panfish.

The author tells where to find the more commonly known, as well as the out-of-the-way angling areas, revealing both hotspots and seldom fished locations. Backed by years of exploring and testing these waters, he gives information on finding the best sites, what to expect when you get there, and fishing methods, including tips on lures and baits.

"Guide to Fishing Westchester and Putnam Counties" covers more than 30 major waterways in the region. Among streams and rivers featured are the Croton, Muscott, Amawalk, Waccabuc, and Cross. Lakes and reservoirs include Sodom, Tilly Foster, Boyd's Corners, Titicus, and Kensico. The book's location maps and photographs indicate possible access points and specific fishing spots to challenge veteran anglers and entice new ones.

The price of the guide is $4.95. Available from: Outdoor Publications, P.O. Box 355, Ithaca, N.Y. 14850.

Pass It On...

USCG TESTS SATELLITES FOR ENFORCEMENT WORK

The U.S. Coast Guard is testing satellite surveillance to monitor foreign fishing operations within the 200-mile offshore fisheries conversation zone.

The experimental tracking system uses existing space technology to provide continuous and accurate information on the location of foreign fishing vessels and to collect other data.

The Coast Guard monitors fishing activity in the conservation zone by using conventional aircraft and cutter patrols in the most active fishing areas. Personnel aboard fixed-wing aircraft locate the fishing vessels and relay information on their whereabouts to nearby cutters. Cutter personnel then board the vessels to determine compliance with U.S. fisheries conservation laws.

While conventional surveillance methods are effective, they also consume much time and fuel. Frequently, fishery patrol units must be diverted for search and rescue missions or other responsibilities.

To test the efficiency of satellite surveillance, the Coast Guard has installed special transmitters on eight foreign fishing vessels operating in the Northwest Atlantic Ocean. Called fishing vessel transmit terminals (FVTTs), the transmitters send a short signal once every minute which is relayed via satellite to a land terminal at the U.S. Coast Guard Oceanographic Unit in Washington, D.C. The receiving terminal interprets the signal to pinpoint vessel positions. The signal also carries environmental data and fish catch information and can transmit a distress signal when the vessel requires emergency assistance.

Coast Guard personnel at the oceanogaphic unit developed the FVTTs from "off-the-shelf" electronics. If the test is successful, low-cost transmitters could be required aboard every foreign vessel issued a permit to fish in the U.S. conservation zone.

HIGH TIDE TABLES

DAY	SANDY HOOK		Breakwater Harbor		NEW YORK		NEW LONDON		WILLETS POINT		BRIDGE-PORT		NEW-PORT		DATE
	AM	PM	AM	PM	AM	PM	AM	PM	AM	PM	AM	PM	AM	PM	
THUR.	9:25	9:45	10:10	10:30	10:05	10:30	11:00	11:15	12:25	1:05	12:15	12:50	9:15	9:40	4/17
FRI.	10:15	10:35	11:05	11:25	11:05	11:25	11:50	–	1:20	2:00	1:10	1:45	10:10	10:35	4/18
SAT.	11:10	11:30	–	12:00	–	12:00	12:10	12:50	2:15	3:10	2:05	2:40	11:00	11:25	4/19
SUN.	–	12:05	12:20	1:00	12:20	12:55	1:10	1:50	3:20	4:15	2:55	3:35	11:55	–	4/20
MON.	12:20	1:05	1:20	2:05	1:10	1:50	2:10	2:55	4:40	5:25	4:00	4:35	12:25	12:55	4/21
TUE.	1:15	2:00	2:25	3:10	2:10	2:50	3:15	4:05	5:50	6:25	5:00	5:40	1:25	1:55	4/22
WED.	2:15	3:00	3:30	4:10	3:05	3:50	4:20	5:05	6:55	7:25	6:00	6:35	2:20	2:55	4/23
THUR.	3:15	3:55	4:30	5:00	4:05	4:45	5:20	5:55	7:50	8:15	7:00	7:30	3:20	3:50	4/24

HOW TO USE TIDE TABLES:

To compute the high tide for the area you wish to fish, simply find the closest area on the conversion tables. Add or subtract the hours and minutes as indicated from that areas station above. Example: "Shinnecock Inlet......—0 50" is listed under "On SANDY HOOK." —0 50 means you subtract 50 minutes from the times given for the SANDY HOOK STATION for the day you are going fishing. This is the approximate time for the high tide in the area. For low tide, add 6 ½ hours to this figure.

On SANDY HOOK

STATEN ISLAND	+ 0 27
ATLANTIC HIGHLANDS	—0 01
Red Bank, Navesink R.I.	+ 0 48
Long Branch	—0 34
SHARK RIVER INLET	—0 18
Shark River Basin	+ 0 27
MANASQUAN INLET	—0 12
Seaside Park	—0 33
Mantoloking Bridge	+ 5 34
TOMS RIVER	+ 4 37
Waretown	+ 2 33
BARNEGAT LIGHT	—0 20
Manahawkin Bridge	+ 2 33
Beach Haven	+ 1 47
LITTLE EGG INLET	—0 01
Seven Islands	+ 0 12
Graveling Point	+ 1 05
Mullica River	+ 1 55
Grassy Bay	+ 1 08
ABSECON INLET	+ 0 14
Atlantic City Pier	—0 26
Gt. Egg Harbor Inlet	+ 0 12
GREAT EGG HARBOR	+ 0 46
CORSON INLET	+ 0 09
TOWNESEND INLET	+ 0 06
HEREFORD INLET	+ 0 02
Grassy Sound Bridge	+ 0 45
Cape May Harbor	—0 02
Rehoboth Beach	—0 07
INDIAN RIVER INLET	+ 0 14
SHINNECOCK INLET	—0 50
Shinnecock Bay	+ 1 25
East Quogue	+ 2 45
Shinnecock Canal	+ 1 18
Indian Reservation	+ 3 05
MORICHES INLET	—0 56
Smith's Point	+ 3 28
Harts Cove	+ 1 30
Potunck Point	+ 3 35
Mastic Beach	+ 3 28
FIRE ISLAND INLET	—0 38
Democrat Point	—0 38
Coast Guard Station	—0 19
Fire Island Light	+ 0 47
GREAT SOUTH BAY	
Sayville	+ 3 39
Heckscher State Pk.	+ 3 20
Bay Shore	+ 2 23
Babylon	+ 2 12
Amityville	+ 2 21
JONES INLET	—0 19
Zachs Bay	+ 1 25
Seaford Harbor	+ 2 05
Freeport Creek	+ 0 34
E. ROCKAWAY INLET	—0 06
Long Beach Bridge	+ 0 19
ROCKAWAY INLET	—0 00
Beach Ch. Bridge	+ 0 38
JFK Airport	+ 0 26

On BRIDGEPORT

Lloyd Point	+ 0 08
Cold Spring Harbor	+ 0 08
Bayville Bridge	+ 0 13
Eatons Neck Point	+ 0 03
Northport Bay	+ 0 03
Norwalk Islands	+ 0 10
Smithtown Bay	—0 03
Cranes Neck Point	+ 0 05
Port Jefferson Harbor	+ 0 03
New Haven Harbor	+ 0 08
Mount Sinai Harbor	—0 08
Herod Point	—0 07
Mattituck Inlet	+ 0 19
Horton Point	—0 20
Truman Beach	—0 42
Falkner Island	—0 13
Sachem Head	—0 10
Branford Harbor	—0 07
New Haven Harbor	—0 08
Milford Harbor	—0 07
Stratford	+ 0 27
Shelton	+ 1 36
Black Rock Harbor	—0 03
Saugatuck River	—0 01
South Norwalk	+ 0 10
Greens Ledge	—0 01
Stamford	+ 0 04
Cos Cob Harbor	+ 0 06
Greenwich	+ 0 02

On NEW LONDON

Orient Point	+ 0 27
Little Gull Is. (Race)	+ 0 12
Greenport	+ 1 04
Southold	+ 1 43
New Suffolk	+ 2 26
South Jamesport	+ 2 32
Shinnecock Canal	+ 2 33
Noyack Bay	+ 2 05
Sag Harbor	+ 0 59
Gardiners Bay	+ 0 21
Promised Land	—0 14
Montauk Inlet	—0 25
Montauk Point	—1 13
Niantic	+ 1 20
Stonington	—0 33
Noank, Mystic River	—0 23
THAMES RIVER	
Smith Cove	—0 01
Norwich	+ 0 09
CONNECTICUT RIVER	
Saybrook jetty	+ 1 10
Lyme	+ 1 24
Essex	+ 1 38
East Haddam	+ 2 41
Higganum Creek	+ 2 54

On WILLETS PT.

Little Neck Bay	—0 10
Execution Light	—0 06
Manhasset Bay	—0 01
Hempstead Harbor	—0 11
City Island	—0 03
Rye Beach	—0 28
Port Chester	—0 09
Mamaroneck	—0 08
New Rochelle	—0 24
Davids Island	—0 02

On B'WATER HB.

CAPE MAY POINT	—0 10
Miami Beach	+ 1 17
East Point	+ 0 53
Egg Island Point	+ 0 33
Cape Henlopen	—0 05
ROOSEVELT INLET	+ 0 09
Mispillion River Ent.	+ 0 33
St. Jones River Ent.	+ 0 57

On NEW YORK

Jersey City	+ 0 07
Geo. Washington Br.	+ 0 46
Spuyten Duyvil	+ 0 58
Ossining	+ 1 53
Peekskill	+ 2 24
West Point	+ 3 16
Newburg	+ 3 42

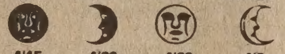
On NEWPORT

Sakonnet	—0 10
Tiverton	+ 0 21
Beavertail Point	—0 02
Prudence Is., Sandy Pt.	+ 0 10
Bristol	+ 0 10
Warren	+ 0 21
Nayatt Point	+ 0 12
Pawtucket	+ 0 21
East Greenwich	+ 0 16
Wickford	+ 0 12
Narragansett Pier	—0 08
Point Judith Harbor	—0 07
BLOCK ISLAND	
Great Salt Pond	+ 0 05
Old Harbor	—0 14
Watch Hill Point	+ 0 44

SUNRISE/SUNSET

4/18	5:16	6:43
4/19	5:15	6:44
4/20	5:12	6:47
4/21	5:11	6:48
4/22	5:09	6:49
4/23	5:07	6:51
4/24	5:05	6:53

PHASES OF THE MOON



NEW	1st Qtr.	FULL	2nd Qtr.
4/15	4/22	4/30	4/8

The Original Knight SOLUNAR TABLES When To Fish Or Hunt

The schedule of solunar periods for the following week as printed below has been taken from the original Knight Solunar Tables. Plan your day so that you will be fishing good areas during these times when the fish should be most active. The tables are not a guarantee you will catch fish, however.

The major periods begin at the time shown and last for an hour-and-a-half or two hours thereafter, and are in the bold type face. The minor periods are shorter in duration and lighter type.

	AM		PM	
	Minor	**Major**	Minor	**Major**
Thurs	12:25	**6:05**	6:35	**1:00**
Fri.	1:30	**7:15**	7:40	**2:00**
Sat.	2:30	**8:15**	8:40	**2:55**
Sun.	3:30	**9:10**	9:40	**3:55**
Mon.	4:25	**10:10**	10:35	**4:50**
Tues.	5:20	**11:05**	11:30	**5:45**
Wed.	6:05	**11:55**	—	**6:25**
Thurs.	6:45	**12:15**	12:40	**7:10**

RESPOND TO THIS

SHANE'S OUTFITTERS SALE!

LIMITED QUANTITIES

SALE ENDS SATURDAY APRIL 26,1980

WRITE OR CALL FOR FREE 1980 MARINE DISCOUNT CATALOG

Digi-Depth 4

At last an easy to read 2'–199' Digital Depth Finder–very good looking includes pre set alarm and rugged Lexan Transom Mt. Transducer.

List $289.95

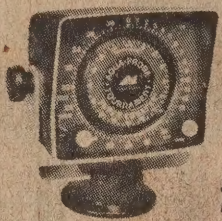
SALE PRICE **$189.95**

Unimetric 108 Channel VHF

104 Channels and 4 weather channels–computer type keyboard entry–built-in hailer– telephone type head set–complete with 6 db ant. and mount.

List $873.85

SALE PRICE **$399.95** COMPLETE



Aqua-probe 375 "Super Cheater"

2 scales 0'–40' and 0'–240'–accurate readings even at 50 mph. Excellent for all types of fishing and navigation– Transom Mt. Transducer

List $239.00

SALE PRICE **$149.88**

Rictchie Pilot Series 3½" Dial Compasses

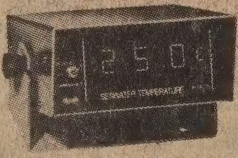
Custom-balanced dished dial for easy viewing–built in compensators–Night Lighting. Excellent quality available flush. F60 or Bracket Mt. 60.

List $82.00 *SALE SPECIAL* **$44.44**

Accurate Sea Water Temp. System

Easy to read 3 Digit Indicator-Displays actual water temp. to 1· C/F. A must for commercial and sport fisherman. Dytek 703200.

List $259.00



SALE PRICE **$199.99**

12 Volt Pump

Submersible 400 gals. per hour-Only 3½" high. Excellent Value Rule 25.

List $22.99

SALE PRICE **$8.88**

Fuel Flow Monitor

With waste watcher-Helps Conserve Fuel! – indicates when pre-set fuel flow level is being exceeded-will more than pay for itself. Airguide 875

2
6
10
14
18
24

List $89.50

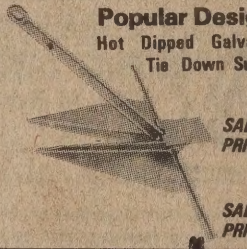
SALE PRICE **$59.99**

Chrome/Brass 12 Volt Double Horns

Powerful deep sound S/S Mounting Bracket. 18" L x 5¼" H x 7½" W– Nicely Styled. Signaltone 1346.

List $76.25

SALE PRICE **$39.95**



Popular Designs Anchors

Hot Dipped Galvanized– Excellent Value– Tie Down Super Hooker.

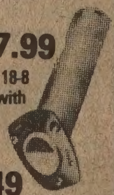
Anchor Size 8S
Boat Length 17-24
SALE PRICE *List $45.00* **$19.99**

Anchor Size 13S
Boat Length 25-32
SALE PRICE *List $69.00* **$29.99**

Flush Rod Holders

1½" Diameter–Soft White Vinyl Liner Perko 1205. Chrome Plated Flange-Anodized Aluminum Tube.

List $13.80 *SALE* **$7.99**



Perko 452–All 18-8 Stainless steel with under flange gasket.

List $21.50

SALE **$12.49**

Tongue Jack For Trailers

Comes equipped with heavy duty worm gear drive for smooth and easy operation. Dutton Lainson 6320.

List $51.70

SALE PRICE **$34.88**

12 Volt Bilge

Non-submersible self priming bilge and wash down pump–fits 5/8 Hose. Wilcox 7000R-1

List $68.60

SALE PRICE **$39.95**

12V Electrical Windshield Wiper Kit

includes adjustable arms & blade holder. All stainless steel Wilcox 0071.

List $35.40

SALE PRICE **$10.77**

1980 Marine Igloo Chests & Fish Box

All White–rigid construction-built to last in salt water area. Useful on or off boat.

Size	Deminsion	List	Sale
48 Qt.	24½Lx14¾Hx14¼W	53.04	29.99
68 Qt.	28¾Lx161/8Hx15¼W	70.68	39.99
86 Qt.	33½Lx16½Hx16W	114.48	65.95

155 Qt.–Many uses–insulated Fish Box or Food Storage
Terrific Value–List 244.00 Sale 129.95

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master charge THE INTERBANK CARD

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